

MARCH
1975



THE

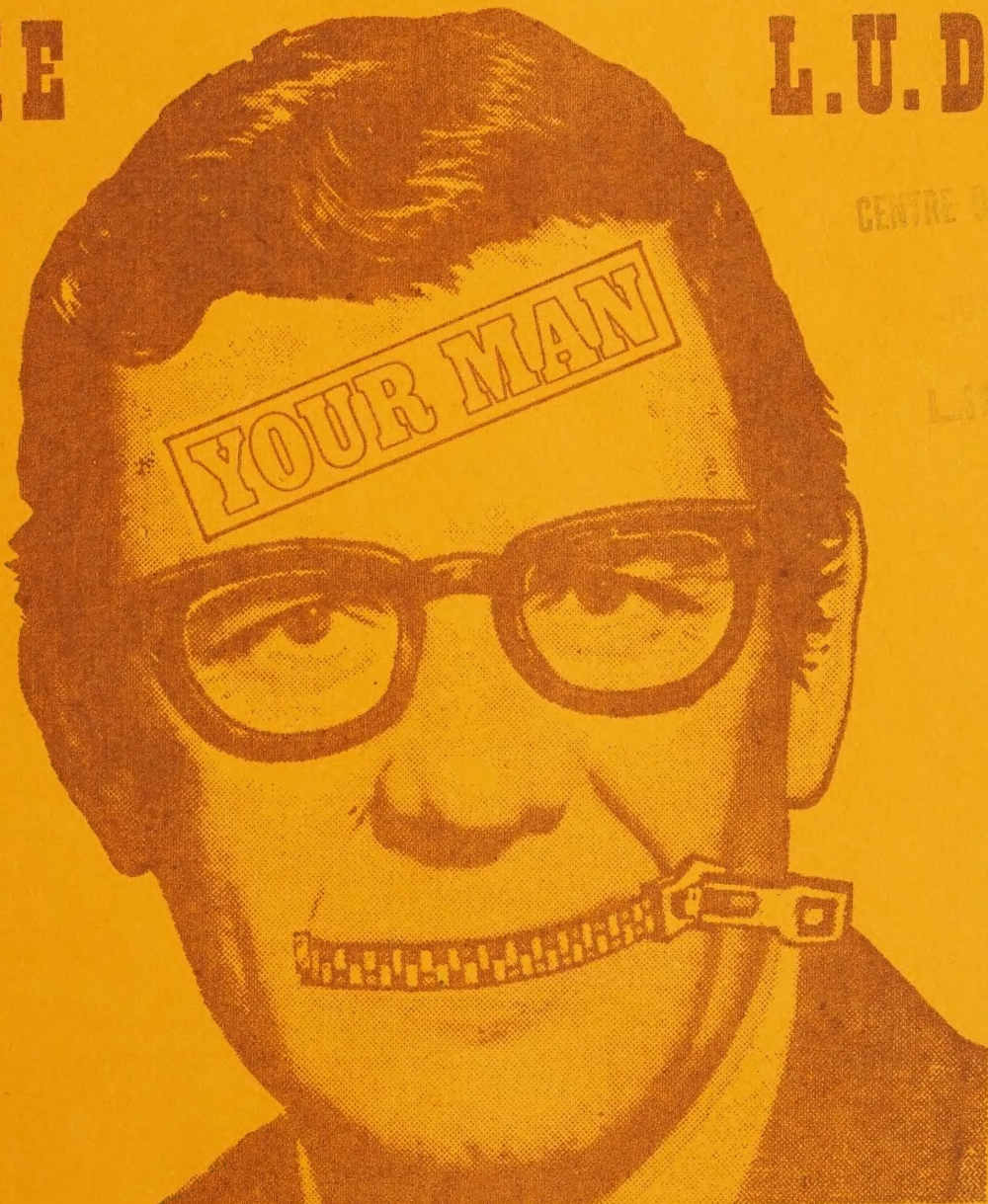
COMMUNICATOR

SPRINGHILL

NOVA SCOTIA

THE

L.U.D.O.



CENTRE OF INFORMATION

JUL 11

LIBRARY

AT
PAROLE HEARINGS

THE COMMUNICATOR, P.O. BOX 2140, SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA



PUBLISHING BOARD:

ERIC FIELDER, LUDO
ARDEN THURBER, HSD

COMMUNICATOR STAFF:

Ivan Paracy,	Management and
	Production.
Bob Eby,	Editor.
David Bloomfield,	Assoc. Editor.
John Ettinger,	Technician.

ONLY OPINIONS EXPRESSED ON EDITORIAL PAGES BELONG TO THE COMMUNICATOR. ALL ELSE HEREIN IS OF DESIGNATED AUTHORS. THE SOLICITOR GENERAL, THE COMMISSIONER OF PENITENTIARIES, THE DIRECTOR OR ADMINISTRATION OF SPRINGHILL PENITENTIARY DO NOT NECESSARILY CONCUR WITH OPINIONS EXPRESSED HERE, THOUGH THEY GRACIOUSLY ALLOW US TO PUBLISH. OUR EDITORIAL POLICY IS FLEXIBLE AND ALLOWS FOR FREE EXPRESSION -- PROVIDING NO STAFF NAMES ARE USED AND OPINIONS DO NOT GET PASSED OFF AS FACT -- ON THE REALIZATION THAT THE WRITER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS STATEMENTS.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION RATES & CIRCULATION:

ALL SPRINGHILL PRISONERS ARE ENTITLED TO A FREE COPY OF THE COMMUNICATOR UPON REQUEST.

ALL OUTSIDE SUBSCRIPTIONS:
12 issues - \$5.00

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO PRISONERS:
12 issues - \$4.00

DELIVERY IN INSTITUTION TO STAFF: - \$3.00

The Contents Herein:

"FINES" - LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF CANADA	2
GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN # 10 .	10
"THE CURIOUS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW AND JUSTICE" (FEATURE ARTICLE by Edgar Z. Friedenber	11
"AT LARGE: A PRISON JOURNAL" (Fiction) by Cymbol	14
"WE HAVE A BETTER WAY TO DO IT" (Article) Ivan Paracy..	16
"A DELIGHT TO THE SENSES" (Review by Bob Eby	18
CLASSIFIED ACTION ADS	19
POETRY SECTION	20
"LOOGANOSIS" (Fiction?) Christopher Jennings 111...	24
HOWARD HOUSE: Community Residential Centre	29
CON-ACT WORKSHOPS ARE ALIVE AND...WELL? Bob Eby.....	30
PENITENTIARY LEGAL SERVICES	31
J.C. CHARTER ANNIVERSARY by David Bloomfield	32
"DEAR ITZY" (Counseling)...	34
'AYCEE REPORT - M.MacKenzie	36
"RAPPING AFTER TWELVE" Discussion with Four) by Bob Eby	38
GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN # 11..	46
EDITORIAL JOTTINGS	47
P.L.S. WORKS FOR YOU	48
COVER STORY	49
FLAT-TIME SENTENCES	50
ENCOUNTER: A SOCIAL AFFAIR by Gregg Scott	50

MEMBER
COSMEP
COMMITTEE OF SMALL MAGAZINE EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS
BOX 105 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94101



FINES



Following through with our promise of last issue, we give you the following chapter from The Law Reform Commission of Canada's WORKING PAPERS 5 & 6. "COMPENSATION," the article from last issue drew considerable comment from our readership and we consider this healthy. Again, we thank KEITH JOBSON for seeing that we have access to these informative and comprehensive papers.

INTRODUCTION

THE AUTHORITY TO DEPRIVE AN INDIVIDUAL OF HIS LIBERTY MAY BE THE MOST AWESOME power that people have given to the state. To maintain him in this condition and, further, to attempt to reform him into a more "productive" participant in our society is a costly undertaking and its effectiveness remains in doubt.

For these reasons we recommended in working paper No. 3 that imprisonment be used with greater restraint. We suggested that some offenders should be diverted out of the formal criminal trial into forums more appropriate for arbitration and conciliation. We argued that more humane, at least equally effective in preventing recidivism, and far cheaper ways of dealing with many offenders whose minimal involvement in criminal activity or lack of dangerousness to the community does not necessitate incarceration.

It is these underlying principles that bring us to consider the fine as a sentencing alternative. Fines are certainly less awesome than imprisonment; they have not been shown to be any less effective a deterrent than any other disposition; they are clearly the least expensive measure possible.

The Commission has already indicated a preference for restitution where an individual victim is harmed. Even in those cases, however, fines may be a supplementary or alternative sanction. In other cases where the harm is not to an individual but to society generally, there may be good reason to impose a fine. In some regards this type of sanction may be looked at as paying back to the whole community.

If, both as a natural outcome of a decrease in the use of imprisonment and as a result of a positive preference for the imposition of the fine in certain cases, perhaps as an alternative to resitutions, the use of the fine in sentencing can be expected to increase, it is necessary to look at the present problems in both the imposition and enforcement of fines, and attempt to correct their shortcomings. Even if the use of the fine does not increase, we find some serious problems with the fine as it presently exists and have some positive recommendations for its improvement.

Principles in the Imposition of Fines

WHICH OFFENCES?

The fine being a humane and economical form of criminal sanction, it would seem to be a sound policy for the judge to be able to impose fines for any offence for which a mandatory sanction is not specified. He would then be further enabled to exercise his discretion, directed perhaps by sentencing guidelines, according to the individual offender, his record, and the particular circumstances of the offence.

Present Criminal Code provisions preclude the judge from imposing a fine for any indictable offence punishable by more than five years imprisonment, except in conjunction with a term of imprisonment or possibly probation. This prohibition affects approximately two-

thirds of all Criminal Code offences. In order to circumvent this restriction, some judges have adopted the practice of sentencing the offender to one day in prison in addition to the "real" sentence deemed appropriate in the case, the fine.

To make the law correspond with current attitudes and practices and to discourage the use of imprisonment where a fine might be as appropriate, by broadening the sentencing alternatives available to the judge, the Commission recommends that judges be given the discretion to impose a fine as the sanction for any Criminal Code offence, except those for which a mandatory sanction is specified, and that, in order to effect this recommendation, present Criminal Code restrictions on the use of the fine be removed.

ALTERNATIVE JAIL SENTENCES

When a judge imposes a fine as the appropriate sanction, he has presumably determined that imprisonment is an inappropriate penalty or unnecessary for the protection of society. Yet present practice sets up the fine, not to stand in its own right as the sentence of the court, but rather to be accompanied by an alternative sentence of imprisonment if the fine is not paid. "X dollars or Y days" is the typical pronouncement of a sentence that would seem to involve an inherent contradiction. It is as if the court were saying, "While we find imprisonment inappropriate in your case, you may choose to be imprisoned if you do not want to accept the sentence we have deemed appropriate. Furthermore, whether you choose imprisonment or not, although we find imprisonment unsuitable, you will be imprisoned if you do not, for whatever reason, pay the penalty we have imposed."

The effect of the fine or days in default sentence is that approximately 50% of admissions to provincial and local correctional institutions in certain parts of Canada in recent years have been for default in payment of fines. A considerable amount of money is therefore being spent to imprison offenders who were not meant to be imprisoned in the first place. It is recognized that most of these people are imprisoned for non-payment of fines resulting from violations of provincial statutes, primarily liquor offences. However, studies indicate sufficient use of imprisonment as an alternative to a fine in Criminal Code offences for such practice to warrant concern at a federal level as well. While some of those being imprisoned are people who choose to spend a short term in jail although they could afford to pay their fines, many seem to be people who simply cannot afford the fine owing to financial circumstances, or who are unable to organize their incomes so that they could manage to pay. In one study 40% of people imprisoned for not paying fines made partial payment either before or while in custody. This figure demonstrates a willingness but inability on the part of these people, to pay the full amount of the fine which also may have been the case for some of those imprisoned who made no payment at all. Furthermore, several studies indicate that the types of offences for which persons are imprisoned for non-payment of fines are typically "poor people's" offences, such as vagrancy and drunkenness. In other words, the alternative jail term seems to fall discriminatorily on the poor offender. The discriminatory effect of the alternative jail term has been found in several provinces to weigh most heavily on the relatively poorer Indian population. In 1970-71 in Sask-

atchewan correctional centres 48.2% of admissions were for non-payment of fines. However 57.4% of native admissions were for default of fines as compared to 34.7% of non-native admissions.

Besides the discriminatory effect and cost of the days in default sentence, we believe that the whole system of criminal justice becomes suspect when the fine is seen not as a sanction but as a means of purchasing liberty.

Commissions and law reform bodies both in Canada and elsewhere have recommended that judges be prohibited from imposing a fine and simultaneously imposing a sentence of imprisonment to be served in the event that the fine is not paid. We adhere to this recommendation.

It has been said that where a convicted person lacks the means to pay even the smallest of fines, a short term of imprisonment is justified. We firmly reject this use of imprisonment as being a punishment for being poor and believe that by giving the individual the opportunity, for instance, to do work, that is, by a work order, justice will be far better served.

Although enforcement of fines will be considered at a later stage in this paper, we would like to note that we adopt the two basic principles enunciated in the New Zealand Fines Enforcement Committee's Report, and recommend:

- 1) That, as the court in imposing a fine must have considered this to be the appropriate penalty for the offence, every effort should be made to collect the fine before resorting to imprisonment or other forms of detention.
- 2) The final sanction of imprisonment should not be resorted to unless:
 - (a) all other methods of enforcement have been unsuccessfully attempted or were unavailable or inappropriate, and
 - (b) the defendant has the means or ability to pay.

In advocating removal of the immediate threat of imprisonment, we have considered its possible effect on payment of fines. Although it is probable that the likelihood of imprisonment has some effect on securing payment, no significant increase in failure to pay has been noted, at least in New Zealand or England where imprisonment has been relegated to a last resort enforcement measure.

DAY-FINES

In previous papers we have expressed the belief that a major concern of a just sentencing policy must be reasonably uniform sentences for similar off-

ences and offenders, whether this concern be expressed in legal terms of due process and equality before the law, or by moral criteria of fairness and humanity. But with regard to pecuniary sanctions, equality of punishment is not achieved by uniformity in the dollar amount of fines. Clearly a fine of, say, \$100 would affect a poor man's life far more severely than a rich man's. We feel that the principle of equality would be far better served by a scheme that recognizes the financial circumstances of each individual offender. The financial hardship society imposes on its law-breakers through the imposition of fines is unjustifiable when it bears more heavily on its poorer members. This financial fact of the differential effect of similar fines on different offenders distinguishes the fine from other sanctions and calls for a different scheme for achieving desired uniformity. A method that has been employed successfully in several countries is the day-fine.

Under a day-fine system the fine would be determined by the amount earned by the offender. The sentencing judge would not concern himself with the dollar amount of the fine. Having satisfied himself that the offender can pay at least a modest fine, he would, without further regard for his financial circumstances, determine the severity of the sanction in terms of a number of day fines. Translating the sentence into dollars would become an administrative matter rather than a judicial one. In Sweden, one day-fine is equivalent to 1/1,000 of the yearly gross income of the offender. Sentenced to twenty day-fines, the person with a gross income of \$5,000 would be required to pay \$100, while another person with a gross income of \$50,000 would pay \$1,000. (Computation of the amount of the day-fine as well as the office whose responsibility it would be are dealt with further in Part Two of this paper). Thus, on being fined, the offender would be required to go immediately to the office of the court clerk, where an inquiry into his means would be held, the amount of the fine arrived at, and arrangements for payment made.

It is recognized that there may be initial difficulties in the administration of day-fines, but it is believed

that the compensating benefit of greater equality in sanctions for rich and poor alike justifies its implementation. However, small fines in sums of up to \$25, which cause little hardship for anyone notwithstanding his financial circumstances, need not be subject to the administrative process of determining means and the value of the day-fine. This exception to the day-fine scheme would encompass a large number of those fines presently imposed. In Toronto provincial courts from January to April 1971, 44% of the women fined were fined in amounts of \$25 or less, and over half of these fines were for Criminal Code offences.

We recommend, therefore, that all fines over \$25 be judicially expressed in terms of day-fines, and that the court clerk or court administrator conduct a means inquiry to determine the dollar value of the fine, immediately upon pronouncement of the sentence.

We would suggest, however, that before the day-fine system is fully adopted, a pilot project be undertaken, in which day-fines are tested for one Criminal Code offence, that of impaired driving, for example, an offence for which fines are relatively high and which encompasses offenders with a wide variety of incomes.

LA CAISSE D'AMENDES:

A REPARATION CHEST

In our working paper on Restitution and Compensation, we recommended that a highly visible fund be set up from which some victims of criminal activities would receive financial compensation for their losses. While we will not here delve into the underlying philosophy of this "compensation pot", we repeat our proposal that all revenues from fines collected as criminal sanctions flow into such a fund. If it is considered desirable to reinstate the victim in his historic position of importance in the criminal process, the conclusion follows that revenue from fines should go not to the state as is presently the case, but to the victims of criminal offences. In this way, criminal offences, the monetary penalties imposed for them, and the victims losses would properly be seen as being interrelated.

AN ADMINISTRATIVE SCHEME OF ENFORCEMENT

INTRODUCTION

Although the Criminal Code presently places the responsibility for enforcement of fines on the sentencing judge, usually much of the initiative is taken by the clerk of the court, with the assistance of local police. The judge

generally has neither the time nor the resources to oversee the payment of fines which, after all, is an administrative matter; similarly the police, charged with the responsibility of finding offenders in default and arresting them, do not have the time to give this task a great deal of attention. Furthermore, complications arise when the offender

lives or moves beyond the geographical jurisdiction of the police and court.

To illustrate the difficulties of this shared responsibility in the enforcement of fines, let us look at what happened to the 830 fines imposed for Criminal Code offences by provincial judges in one Canadian city in 1971. Although 199 fines were not paid in the time allotted, only 158 warrants were issued before the end of the year. Although 158 warrants were issued, only 81 were executed (73 of which resulted in payment, 8 resulted in jail terms for non-payment). So, several months after time to pay had expired, 118 of the original 830 offenders continued to avoid payment. Where offenders are negligent in making prompt payment or wilfully avoid making payment, the costs of administration are needlessly increased. The desirability of passing part of these additional costs on to the offender in certain cases should not be overlooked.

By centralizing all aspects of enforcement of fines in one administrative agency with adequate manpower and facilities to execute these functions, and to keep accurate, accessible and up-to-date records possibly through computerization, much of the inefficiency and resultant inequities of the present system could be removed. Furthermore, judges and police would not be burdened by these responsibilities. We recommend, therefore, that the office of the court clerk or administrator be expanded in order that it take over these functions. A strengthened court administration would also be responsible for the collection and enforcement of restitution payments, as suggested in our working paper on Restitution and Compensation.

PROCEDURES FOR PAYMENT OF FINES

MEANS INQUIRY

The Criminal Code does not always require the court to consider the means of the accused before determining the amount of the fine. Only if the judge orders the fine to be paid immediately should he be satisfied that the accused is able to do so (and this provision may be nullified as will be seen in the following section). Even later when the offender is faced with jail for failure to pay, no inquiry into the offender's ability to pay need be held except where the offender is under 21. Even in such a case, the Code does not specify the depth to which the inquiry must go.

A means inquiry is an integral part of a day-fine system. We suggest that, as with enforcement, determination of means would best be handled by a branch of the court clerk's office with adequate time and resources allotted for the

specific task. After asking the offender some basic questions about employment, number of dependents, extent of debts and assets, the court administrator would compute the amount of the day-fine by an estimation of 1,000th of the offender's gross income in the past year with rules for reductions for dependants, large debts, and high incomes (because of progressive taxation) as well as for increases for offenders with amounts of capital. Specific rules for this computation might best be developed through the proposed pilot project.

TIME TO PAY

The first decision now made by the judge with regard to enforcement is whether the offender should pay immediately. As argued above, the administrative arm of the court would be better equipped to make this determination through its inquiries and could relieve the judge of the task. While at present the judge cannot order immediate payment unless

- (a) the court is satisfied that the person convicted is able to pay forthwith, or
- (b) upon being asked the accused person states that he does not require time to pay,

these provisions are undermined by another provision which permits the judge to order immediate payment if for any special reason he deems it expedient.

We suggest that everyone with immediately available means be required by the court clerk or court administrator to pay forthwith. However, no special reason such as likelihood of absconding or history of non-payment should supersede the fact that an individual cannot pay immediately. Surely it is absurd for someone to be considered in default of payment of his fine as soon as it is imposed, if he does not have the money with him but for some special reason is required to pay immediately. It would be preferable for the judge to choose an alternative sanction such as a work order or probation where he has reason to believe that payment of a fine would be unlikely or too burdensome to enforce.

Where time to pay is granted, it must at present be a minimum of fourteen days. In practice, many payments are made shortly after the deadline. (In one study 44.6 percent of offenders paid after the deadline but before a warrant was issued). Do these statistics suggest that extending the usual two week time to pay period to a minimum of three or four weeks might result in a somewhat lower default rate? Or do they equally suggest a tendency for people to pay at the last possible moment whatever the allowed time may be? We are not convinced that the two week period need be in-

creased. What is more important is that each case be considered individually and carefully and that the court clerk or administrator in consultation with the offender, set a time that appears to be both feasible for the offender and no later than necessary.

INSTALMENTS

In our present-day economy, instalment payment is the normal and often the only feasible means of payment for many people. Having adopted the principle that every effort be made to collect the fine before resort to imprisonment, we must be willing to accommodate this practical reality by acceptance of the need for instalment payment of fines. If accurate records are kept, instalment payment can be an efficient means of decreasing the likelihood that the offender

will be unable to meet the time set for payment. As with the time to pay, the decision about the desirability, times and amounts of instalment payments should be made by the court clerk or administrator after consultation with the offender. In this connection it may also be desirable to consider the availability of debt counselling services, possibly through cooperation with another agency, to assist the offender in organizing his finances so that he would be able to manage payments.

EXTENSION OF TIME TO PAY

The offender should be made aware that if he has unforeseen difficulties in meeting payment, he has the right to apply to the clerk of the court for extension of time to pay.

PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF NON-PAYMENT

It has been suggested above that the judge and the police be relieved of their responsibilities in enforcing payment of fines and that collection be concentrated in the office of the court clerk or administrator. Such an office should have the facilities and the time to discharge a specific duty of arranging and enforcing quick but feasible terms of payment. It has also been suggested that day-fines be introduced, that provisions for payment by instalments and extension of time to pay be made and that the availability of counselling facilities be considered. All of this should have the effect of keeping the amount of the fine more in line with the ability of the offender to pay and make the terms of payment more realistic. Through these improvements it is expected that the number of persons who do not pay in the allotted time will be decreased.

Yet the question remains -- what do we do with the person who fails to pay his fine on time? To meet this question we have discussed a number of possible steps. The procedures which follow should have to be invoked for only a small percentage of fined offenders. We must keep in mind the principle that imprisonment ought only be resorted to after all other methods of enforcement have been unsuccessfully attempted or were unavailable or inappropriate, and the offender has the means or ability to pay. These procedures, then, are meant to ensure that those offenders who do not pay their fines do not get away, but also that they do not end up in prison unless all other methods of enforcement have been exhausted and wilfully continue to refuse payment.

The first step to be taken when an

offender has not met the time set for payment and has not requested an extension, would be the calling of a means inquiry. For those who had been sentenced in day-fines it would mean a second and more detailed examination of their means. At this inquiry the offender would be given the opportunity to show cause for his non-payment of the fine. The onus would be on him to produce evidence of his financial position that might suggest a miscalculation at the first means inquiry or a deterioration of means since that time. Through such an inquiry the clerk could make a preliminary determination whether or not the non-payment was deliberate or negligent.

In order to get the defaulting offender to this means inquiry, the court clerk's office would mail a warning, explaining that the deadline had passed and that the offender must pay immediately or be summonsed to attend at the court clerk's office for examination and disclosure of means. If payment were not then made, a person from the court clerk's office would serve the summons, in person. The experience in several jurisdictions has been that many tardy offenders pay on receipt of the warning or the summons. Finally, if the offender ignores the summons to appear, the court administrator's office would request that a warrant be issued by the court, which the staff of the court clerk would execute, forcing the offender's appearance at the means inquiry.

Depending upon the results of the means inquiry, some offenders might decide to pay at that time. Other offenders, upon showing a change in their financial circumstances, might ask for a re-adjustment of the dollar value of the day-fine, an extension of time to pay,

or an alteration in the terms of instalment payments. However, if it were found that the offender's circumstances had changed so drastically since the sentence was imposed that no payment was possible, the court administrator should have the power to apply to the judge to change the sentence.

On such an application the judge should have the power to do one of several things. One possibility would involve a total forgiveness or removal of any sanction. One factor leading to such a determination might be the gravity of the misfortune that caused the deterioration of means. While at present the power to forgive a sanction (remission) is exercised by the Governor-General in Council through the National Parole Board, it is suggested that justice would in this connection be better served if such power were placed in the local judge.

The judge should also have the power to re-sentence the offender and to order, for example, that an offender lacking the means to pay work off the amount of his fine through community service. (The concept of work orders will be treated in a forthcoming working paper). While community service orders are viewed as a preferred alternative, it is recognized that such a scheme would not be practicable at all times in every community. Therefore, the offender might also be re-sentenced to a term of probation. Similarly, probation might be considered as a re-sentencing alternative for the offender who cannot pay and refuses to cooperate in a work order.

Finally, intentional defiance of a work order or a probation order would constitute a new offence punishable on summary conviction, as is presently the

law for violations of probation orders (Criminal Code of Canada, s. 666). If tried and convicted of this offence, the offender would be subject to possible imprisonment as one of the regular sentencing alternatives for summary conviction offences.

Where the office of the court clerk found through its means inquiry that the offender had the means to pay his fine but deliberately refused to do so, or where the offender neglected to provide evidence to prove his inability to pay, that office would also apply to the judge for re-sentence or conversion of the sanction. It is suggested that the judge in those cases have the power to make collection of the fine coercive, no longer dependent on the cooperation of the offender who has demonstrated his unwillingness to cooperate. This may be done through an order that sums of money belonging to the accused including wages be placed under garnishee and attached at a specified rate until such time as the entire amount of the unpaid fine has been collected. Employers should not be allowed to use such garnishment as a basis, in whole or in part, for the discharge of an employee or for any other disciplinary action against an employee. Another possible order of the court which may be considered is the seizure and sale of goods belonging to the recalcitrant defaulter. However, this method may be considered too problematic to be practicable.

Where these methods of forced collection of fines owed are found to be unavailable or inappropriate, the court should have the power to re-sentence the offender with means who intentionally refuses payment to a term of imprisonment.

THE SWEDISH DAY-FINE SYSTEM

WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT OPERATES

1. The day-fine was brought into force in Sweden in 1932 in order that monetary penalties for criminal offences should affect the rich and the poor more equitably, and we understand that it is now completely accepted there by both the public and the judiciary. Somewhat similar systems are, we understand, in force in Denmark and Finland. The principle of the system as applied in Sweden is simple enough. The fine is calculated by multiplying together a number (from 1 to 120, or from 1 to 180 in the case of multiple offences) reflecting the gravity of the offence, and a sum of money (varying from 2 kr. to 500 kr.) known as the day-fine, which is assessed according to the offender's ability to pay. The two factors, the seriousness of the offence and the offender's means,

are determined quite independently of each other, and both the number of day-fines and the amount of each are announced in court. The information about the offender's means is obtained by the police before the trial, and is usually confirmed with him in court. In general the day-fine is estimated at 1/1000th of his annual gross income (less expenses directly related to his employment); and there is provision for the reduction of the day-fine according to his liabilities, and for its increase if he has capital exceeding a specific amount. The system does not apply to minor offences, which are punishable by fines up to a maximum of 500 kr; these offences are excluded because to calculate the day-fine in the very large number of cases concerned would involve a heavy adminis-

trative burden and because the payment by the will-to-do of a very large fine for a petty offence is thought to be out of place.

SCOPE OF THE APPLICATION OF THE SYSTEM

2. Under the day-fine system the fine imposed is arrived at by multiplying a number (from 1 to 120, or 180 for multiple offences), reflecting the gravity of the offence (which may be affected by any previous convictions for similar offences), by a sum of money (varying from 2 kr. to 500 kr. and called a day-fine) assessed according to the offender's ability to pay. Both the number of day-fines and the amount of each day fine are announced by a judge in passing sentence. Fines for all offences under the penal code are imposed in the form of day fines, except where a maximum sum of 500 kr. is specified (monetary fines) or where there is a special basis of computation (standardised fines). (Monetary fines are available for drunkenness, disorderly conduct, minor traffic offences and regulatory offences; standardised fines are primarily applied in the use of income tax evasion.) Certain statutes other than the penal code also provide for specific offences to be punished by day-fines, and in a few cases a minimum number of day fines is prescribed. In the more serious motoring offences, such as dangerous driving, careless driving, etc., day-fines up to the maximum of 120 may be added when a conditional sentence (suspended judgment) is passed or probation ordered; damages may also be ordered where the issues are clear but this is rarely done. (Compensation and costs are ordered independently from the day-fine). It is understood, however, that in motoring cases insurance companies take account of the number of day-fines ordered by the courts, which is taken to reflect the degree of culpability of the offender.

3. The imposition of day-fines is not exclusively the prerogative of the court. If the penalty prescribed for an offence is only a fine the public prosecutor may issue an "order of summary fine" (Strafforelaggande) instead of instituting proceedings. His discretion is limited to a maximum of 50 days fines or 60 days fines in the case of multiple offences. If the accused agrees to pay the fine the order is deemed to be a final judgement delivered by the court; if he does not the prosecutor will institute proceedings. There appears to be no special limit on the amount of the day-fine ordered in cases disposed of by the public prosecutor.

4. The Swedish statistics do not distinguish between fines which are assessed on a day-fine basis and those whi-

ch are not, and it is therefore difficult to assess the extent of use of the day-fine. One unofficial estimate by the Swedish authorities is, however, that of fines imposed by courts and prosecutors in the period 1967-67, 20-25% were assessed as a day-fine basis; in the case of fines imposed by courts only, probably 45-67% were assessed on a day-fine basis.

ASSESSMENT OF THE OFFENDER'S MEANS

5. The assessment of the offender's capacity to pay is very much a rough and ready business; it involves no great volume of work and presents no real problem. The courts are apparently much less fussy now in their assessment of the offender's means than they were when the system was brought into operation in the early 1930's. Information about the offender's means is obtained by the police as part of their investigation of an offence and is not infrequently obtained from the offender by telephone. Where the offender is present at the hearing, which he usually, but not always, is, the judge will check with the defendant whether the information given in the police report is accurate. In theory, the case may be adjourned for further inquiries if it is evident that the offender is untruthful, but this apparently is seldom done. The giving of false information concerning means is not an offence, and the offender risks no penalty by giving untrue information, either in the form or orally to the court. It is perhaps relevant that information about income is public property in Sweden; an annual register of the income of most wage earners is published and there is a national system of graduated pensions, a feature of which is that each person has an insurance card showing his tax grade which the court may ask to see. It is also possible to confirm income with the tax authorities, and the defendant knows that his statement of income can be checked. The form commonly used for less serious offences is a short version, which includes details of gross income, tax assessment, capital, debts, marital status, wife's income and number of dependent children; there is also a fuller type of form which fulfills in addition the function of a social enquiry report. The simple form, requiring only a few entries, is usually endorsed by a rubber stamp on the papers. Inaccuracies in the information supplied in the form seem to be not uncommon but, where necessary, these are in fact that the system could be operated even without the use of the form. The public prosecutor does not ask for any particular fine to be imposed and it is left entirely to the judge to decide upon the number of day-fines and the amount of each.

COMPUTATION OF THE AMOUNT OF THE DAY-FINE

6. In general, the day fine is estimated as 1,000th of the offender's annual gross income (less expenses directly related to his employment). If the offender is married and his wife has no income of her own, a reduction of 1/5th is made, and a further reduction of 2 kr. is made for each child. There are rules governing the reduction of the amount of the day-fine when the income is high (because of progressive taxation) and for its increase when the offender has capital of 30,000 kr. or more. There are also rules for computing the amount of the day-fine in the case of married women with no income of their own and for offenders with large debts; for those without means the day-fine, normally set at a minimum of 5 kr., is usually reduced to 3 kr., but can be reduced to 2 kr.

ENFORCEMENT

7. The collection of the fine is the responsibility of the enforcement authority and no money may be paid into the court. The enforcement authority is also responsible for the enforcement of unpaid fixed penalties, unpaid fines imposed by the public prosecutor, maintenance, taxes and civil debts. A register of fines is sent to the enforcement authority and in theory enforcement action commences after eight days if payment is not made. The offender may arrange with the enforcement office to pay the fine by monthly instalments over a period of one year or, exceptionally, two years, and the authority is entitled to grant a respite of four months or, in special circumstances, eight months before collecting the fine. If no satisfactory arrangements are made action is taken to attach the defaulter's earnings; if this expedient is not available and threatening him with imprisonment proves unsuccessful, the next step is to distrain on his property. As a last resort the case may be referred to the public prosecutor if this action is not taken within three years of the imposition of the fine recovery is no longer possible. The public prosecutor may write off outstanding sums up to 50 kr. or 5 day-fines (100 kr. or 10 day-fines in respect of multiple offences); these fines cannot be converted into imprisonment unless the offender has been refractory or manifestly neglectful in fulfilling his duty to pay, or unless the conversion is deemed to be needed as a means of inducing him to amend his ways. The court may convert the outstanding sum to imprisonment of up to 90 days' duration, and the usual tariff is one day's imprisonment for each day fine unpaid. (Once actually admitted to prison the offender may not secure release by payment of the outstanding sum). Alternatively, the court may refer the case back to the enforcement authority with a view to further extension of the

period of payment, or it may impose a conditional sentence. It is understood that of 29,000 cases dealt with by the enforcement office in 1967 4,000 were referred back to the public prosecutor. Only a hundred or two cases a year are in practice converted to imprisonment. The maintenance of children has first claim on any monies received, and taxes, fines and civil debts follow on that order. An interesting feature of the system is that fines imposed in one of the Nordic countries may be enforced in any other, subject to the proviso that the defaulter may be imprisoned only in his country of origin.

FEATURES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST

8. The following aspects of the system deserve comment:

- (1) It is claimed that the introduction of the day-fine led to a striking (50%) reduction in the number of fine defaulters imprisoned; and it is to be assumed, therefore, that the system has operated to correct the imposition in some cases of unrealistically high fines. The system is, however, primarily designed to ensure that an even justice is done.
- (11) A wide discretion is conferred upon the executive authority. The public prosecutor can impose fines of up to 500 X 50 kr and has discretion to "write off" unrecovered day-fines of up to 5 in number. (Driving licences can be withdrawn by the licencing authority for traffic offences, and it is understood that this power is automatically invoked where fines in excess of 30-40 kr. are imposed).
- (111) There is thought to be nothing objectionable to a very prolonged period of enforcement. One Swedish official explained to members of the Sub-Committee that the objective was not to punish, but to deter by bringing home to the offender that the commission of further offences would prove costly.
- (1V) In practice, offenders may be fined fairly stiff amounts (up to 500 kr.) without the use of the day fine system. There is some anomaly in this, because such fines for lesser offences could be higher than fines imposed under the day-fine system for more serious offences on those with limited means.

(V) The wide discretion in matching the penalty to the offence is said not to result in practice in any marked disparity between one court and another in the assessment of the gravity of the offence.

(VI) The day-fine system is completely accepted both by the public and the judiciary. After many years of its operation the procedure is well established, and there is no question

of reverting to the old system of prescribing minima and maxima for specific offences.

(VII) The penal code provides that fines may be used as a collective punishment for several crimes, with a corresponding increase in such cases of the normal maximum or 120 day-fines, to 180 day-fines, and an increase of a maximum fine directly imposed from 500 to 1,000 kr.

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

Number Ten Unit

By C.D.Dunlap

I GUESS I'LL START THIS ARTICLE OFF with a leap into sanity: that being really one of the so-called normal insanities ... SPORTS! We had a really far-out Easter-time here this year, YEAH! Why there was sports here and sports there, sports everywhere. For just a brief glimpse at the scene in our unit we had TOM SPRATT and FERN FALANDE-AU come in first in the crib tournament.

And now; it's over to our international correspondent, Larry Landrover for the scene and the standings of our prisoners from #10 Unit in the gym. This time JOE TONY grabbed second in Badminton and, in the heavy leagues or what is known as the Iron Game, JEAN LEBLANC placed 1st while DAVE BURNS flashed everybody out with a second, in their respective categories. Actually, it's the first I even heard of Burns placing, and to be real for just one second, it flashed me out!

So, as I get progressively crazier at the typewriter and begin to get my famous flash-backs as to the current events in this unit, I draw a big blank. I mean is there anything that is really NEW? But anyway, to make a long story longer... etc. etc.

Of course the population of the unit grows each Friday to the tune of approximately 4 guys, meaning that approximately 12 guys have entered the unit since I last sat down at this same typewriter,

for the benefit of those of you who can't multiply.

And for the benefit of those of you who can't add it is only 239 days before Christmas, from the day this article was written, so get your shopping done early this year and avoid the rush. The reason I thought I'd add that tidbit of useless information is because I got caught-up checking-out the shots of the little (?) ladies so conveniently placed and posed on my Penthouse Calendar.

Now for the sad news: We have been robbed of our very own private secretary, Janice. Seriously, all the guys wish her well in her new position in #3 Building but we hope it isn't permanent (you gotta come back!) because she did add something to the unit that no one else can replace.

I've been racking my brain to come up with some kind of retort to the last comment made in reference to me by the Editor of this rag but I feel that subjecting him to reading this nonsense is punishment enough.

Insanely yours,
c.d. dunlap

EDITOR'S NOTE: A concept that might put what is going down here into perspective is that all editors are masochists and, since it is obvious c.d. is a sadist, "You're for me, 'Chunky'!"

CON-EMPLOYED

1885 BARRINGTON ST.
SUITE 307
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Sponsored by the John Howard Society
Of Nova Scotia

108 TOWNSEND ST.
P.O. BOX 384
SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA

'WORKING TOGETHER WITH
THE MALE OFFENDER'

The Curious Relationship Between

Law and Justice

by Edgar Z. Friedenberg

Edgar Z. Friedenberg, Ph.D., author of <u>The Vanishing American</u> , <u>Coming of Age in America</u> , <u>The Dignity of Youth and Other Atavisms</u> , <u>R.D. Laing</u> , and dozens of other published works honours us with this EXCLUSIVE to the COMMUNICATOR
--

I, TOO, ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE ON SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES AND METHODS sponsored by the Dalhousie University Faculty of Law last January 25, and discussed on page 30 of the February, 1975 COMMUNICATOR, and would like to use it as a point of departure for some observations about law and justice that the Conference called to my mind. I frequently attend these conferences, although I am not and never shall be a member of the legal fraternity -- or, indeed, of any fraternity. I observe very strictly the Marxian (tendence Groucho) vow against joining any club that would have me as a member. But as a social scientist the law is an object, or rather a process, that I find both interesting and frightening. I also find it interesting that I should find it frightening; as I am 54 years old and Jewish, and such persons as I were, of course, brought up to respect the law and view it as a source of protection. Had I been living in Germany between 1935 and 1945, as some of my relatives were for part of the time, I would have had exceptional opportunities to observe its protections as they functioned; for no Jew in Hitler's Germany became the victim of any unlawful act. But I am an American, where the role of law is usually regarded as more ambiguous. We have never even been able, despite many attempts to litigate the issue, to get the U.S. Supreme Court to rule on whether American intervention in Indochina was lawful; and by the time this is published, the issue will probably have become moot.

It seemed to me that at the January 25, Conference, I was the only participant present who did fear the law; everyone else seemed totally enthusiastic about it. The thing that brought this to my attention initially was the response of the participants to a complaint made by an official of the adult division of the probation service that judges ought not to set conditions for probation that were unenforceable in practice. He had in mind such conditions as prohibitions against taking a drink even in private or; in one instance cited that I cannot vouch for but which, if it actually occurred, suggests a curiously active interest on the part of the Bench, a prohibition against a probationer having sexual intercourse with his wife.

The official who spoke against such conditions of probation was certainly right; and I expected most of the audience who responded to agree that such conditions were both impracticable and onerous, as well as unjustifiable restrictions on the probationer's life as a human being. Instead, they began to vie with one another to show the Probation Officer that such restrictions were not really unenforceable; you could question his neighbors (or presumably his wife) for example. When I got up to complain that this meant that they were advocating a police state, ridden by informers, I did get some applause for having pointed this out. But it should not have been necessary to point it out to a group composed chiefly of members of the bar; it should have been their first concern. I suspect it was close to their last.

In my experience Canadians, like most people in modern industrial societies but I think in greater degree, tend to think of law and law enforcement as absolutely essential to the orderly conduct of society and as such, worth whatever they cost. There are problems with this formulation, however. The most obvious, though most superficial of these is the fact that the apparatus of law-enforcement itself commits a very large proportion of the offenses that occur; and also incites others to commit them. This statement may shock my readers, but I think it is clearly

warranted by the recent disclosures of the role of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in issuing false documents libeling opponents of the Indochina War; and in planting undercover agents who often urged the groups they had infiltrated to acts of violence, supplying bombs or ammunition to them if needed. American law enforcement officials neither deny or apologize for supplying suspected narcotics violators with material to sell so that they can catch them selling it. The allegations of brutality against the Toronto Police and Don jailers recently widely publicized in the press of that city certainly describe criminal acts and appear to be based on so much evidence and to be so numerous that the Commission investigating them has been obliged to resort to a sampling technique in order to consider them; it just can't handle them all. And while I certainly would defend the right of each police officer involved to his presumption of innocence, it does seem unlikely that so substantial a body of complaint should be without foundation. Evidence of official misconduct is, in any case, much harder to secure in Canada than in the United States, since the United States has no Official Secrets Act -- Daniel Ellsberg really would have been a criminal in this country -- and Canada has no legislation like the American Freedom of Information Act under which an individual may sue government agencies, including law enforcement agencies, to compel them to acknowledge the existence of files they may be keeping on him and usually to divulge their contents.

But, it may be argued, that these are abuses, aberrations, to be corrected by administrative reform or legislative change, and are not inherent in the law enforcement process itself. I think this is a liberal illusion; but even if it were not, there would still be fundamental problems in the relationship between law and order. It may certainly shock my readers to learn that there have been many quite orderly societies, though they are small and undeveloped technologically, which have no conception at all of a criminal code. All societies have some kind of a civil code, according to which persons identifiable as magistrates enforce lawful agreements, including those arrived at between parties who allege wrongs against one another. But not all societies reify irritable abstractions, like Regina or The People of the State of Delaware, who are presumed to be offended by the alleged misconduct of citizens. A distinguished Danish classical scholar, Svend Ranulf, published over forty years ago a work called The Jealousy of the Gods and Criminal Law at Athens, followed by another entitled Moral Indignation and Middle Class Psychology, in which he argued that the conception of a punitive and moralistic state embodied in criminal law develops along with a deprived and resentful working class which must, at all costs, be prevented from attempting to redress its own grievances and is led, instead, to accept the services of the state as its avenger -- though that same state, of course, also sets and enforces the terms of its exploitation. This would be especially true, of course, in socialist or communist states where the exploitation cannot even be called by its right name, since it is deemed to be in the public interest -- and these states do, by and large, have more repressive and harsher criminal codes than capitalist states.

If Ranulf is right, then every society will recognize two crimes: treason, in which Regina or The People really is the offended party and not just a surrogate for one; and contempt of court, or refusal to abide by the rulings of the civil tribunal. Beyond this, the state, in defining particular actions as criminal, is really defining the distribution of power in society: that is, establishing who may do what to whom, and under what circumstances. This may or may not be a useful thing to do in the sense that it makes life more liveable for most people. Moreover, once it is done, expectations arise and institutions are erected upon those expectations, so that law enforcement really does become necessary to the preservation of order. But what it all has to do with justice seems to me difficult to understand. I do understand how questions of justice arise in the administration of the law: questions which I trust few would insist the Canadian legal system has fully resolved. But the idea of a just criminal code seems to me a contradiction in terms. The criminal code evolves and in certain respects is designed to defend the institutional arrangements that exist and facilitate their operation. A criminal code that forbade what rich people do as severely as it limits what poor people do when each is acting normally would be like a chess game in which pawns could do everything rooks or bishops can. No wonder the Russians make such wonderful chess players! It must provide almost their only opportunity to enjoy, even in fantasy, the delights of a society with class distinctions.

These are easier to come by in Canada. I must admit to a certain ironic amusement at the recent insistence of more militant convicts in this country and even more strikingly in the United States that all convicts are political prisoners. My, it took you a long time to find that out. The trouble is, it doesn't prove what you might like to have it prove. All prisoners, everywhere, are political prisoners -- even the hapless American consul in the hands of Argentine or whatever terrorists -- and they always have been. This has nothing consistent to do with the adminis-

tration of justice, but with the distribution of power. And it does not depend on inequities in access to justice -- ubiquitous as these are -- that is, on things like the greater availability of expert legal assistance to the rich than to the poor. That, too, is part of the definition of being poor and powerless. In California, when an established and well financed program of legal aid for the poor began to expand from helping them get divorces and cases like that into filing lawsuits against growers on behalf of farmworkers, its funds were immediately cut off on complaints from the state's Senators; while liberal governor Edmund Brown -- the present governor's father -- fired and publicly denounced an able staff in the welfare department which had compiled and was preparing to distribute a pamphlet which did no more than set forth in easily understandable form the rights and benefits already legally available to people eligible for welfare. In 1966, such justice to the poor might easily have cost him the election, which, of course, he lost to Ronald Reagan anyway.

But even if the administration of justice were, or could be, equitable, the criminal code would still be a political instrument; for what is to be defined as criminal in any society is itself a political question. Not many Russians are prosecuted for bank robbery; not many Canadians are prosecuted for cashing travelers' cheques -- if they are their own -- in a private shop. I do not mean to imply at all that I think one criminal code is as good -- or as bad -- as another; or that the organization and administration of justice is unimportant. It may, as you well know, be all-important. Canada, in my judgement, has a pretty good criminal code -- better, certainly, than the United States; and a very poor system of justice, especially deficient in constitutional safeguards and civil rights -- poorer than the United States. What I am saying is this, nevertheless, and under any circumstances I know or can convey of, the law is a political instrument -- a weapon designed for and to be wielded by the possessors of power. And, as such, I find it frightening.

Gestetner

Sales and Service

*Suppliers of
fine duplicating
equipment*

**COMPLETE RANGE
OF COLOURS IN
STENCIL & OFFSET
DUPLICATING PAPER
AND COVER STOCK**

- Coast to Coast -

Gestetner

AT LARGE

BY CYMBOL

"AT LARGE: A Prison Journal" is another continuing novel that will be presented in THE COMMUNICATOR on a monthly basis. The writer chooses to use the pseudonym CYMBOL and we will respect his right to remain anonymous. His writings are reflective of his experiences in a maximum security prison but since he is writing from Springhill, there is no doubt his writer's eye will fall on the medium setting here. All names and events mentioned within the pages are historically false but poetically true, and will remain so to protect the guilty.

Chapter Four: "TITS AND ASSES"

IT'S BEEN A NIGHTMARE. I'M STILL SPINNING AND NOT REALLY SURE WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING. Almost all of "them" have been down here to talk to me (though mostly they've been yelling, not talking) telling me over and again what I did wrong; but I just can't figure why they're so upset.

It's dark down here, and I can't have any paper or pencil after four in the pm, because at that witching hour the pencil turns mightier than the sword; but I'm trying to get as much of this down as I can before they send somebody down here again to turn off my lights.

They've been sending me out to talk to schoolkids for the last four months. I've been going out -- oh, maybe once or twice a month, sometimes less -- and doing this thing because it's one of those reform and rehabilitate deals they've got going. But every time I went out -- and came back -- I'd feel guilty and ashamed; people kept promising me that after another one (and then another and another) I'd get my ticket. In some ways it used to look like fun. But, like they say, all good gaffs must come to an end... someday.

Anyway I blew it somehow. In front of 300 kids and their gestapo (not counting the ones who escorted me to the highschool) I stood up there and told them as much of the truth as I could cram into a Wednesday afternoon assembly period.

You see, you write your speech, and then one of the helpful trained staff comes along and makes some "editorial suggestions" -- you know, grammar and sentence structure and effective speaking pointers, and changing the meaning of everything you want to try to say....(they said my original speech was just a "bit too complex" for highschoolkids and staff to catch and that their small alterations and suggestions could help make what I (they) wanted to say more direct and straightforward); and then you go back to your drum and say the thing over to yourself and the walls about 20 times, until it sounds rehearsed; and then you say it to the rest of your public-speaking group about 5 times; and copies are sent in quadruplicate to the brass; then you see people about why you wanna go out and talk to the kids and how it's gonna help you on the outside -- learning to speak before groups: (hands up! put all your money on the table!)

and, finally, you get to accompany two super-glomphs in the freezing blue bus with penitentiary servix lettering plastered all over the sides like goodyear blimp sign painting, to some maximum-security highschool in the area -- and while the kids squirm in their seats and hurl spit balls at you, and the teachers yell at them and beat them up in the aisles -- you say your speech once again and then split back to jail.

Some fun, huh?

So, sue me. I dug it. What the hell, it's OUT, after all; it's a change, and -- luckily -- nobody you respect from the joint, just the other kids who want to get out as badly as you do, ever hear what you say to the kids on your days out.

Thinking about it, I wonder where I've been so long? I must've been crazy to have ever begun doing something as dumb as those public confessions -- it just couldn't have been the same person. I mean, I even wrote my speeches -- sort of.

Anyhow, this last time I just stood up there on that stage, and said my speech with a huge grin slapped across my face and my tone less-than-humble or sorry, like I was laughing at them for listening to me -- letting them know that I knew that where they were is where I am, only they don't know it and wouldn't believe me if I told them. (All I remembered about school was that it felt like a jail, until I went to jail -- then I knew that it really was a jail and I was smart to have gotten out before they parolled me to collich.)

As a public service, here's the part of the speech they let me get away with before they took me "home" and locked me in the cellar:

"Ladies and gentlemen, students, teachers, and Fellow Human beings,
(Fellow Inmates!)

It is a pleasure to be here...

(They teach us to say that everywhere we go. Even when you go to the toilet you're supposed to say it if somebody's in there with you: "It's a pleasure to be here" -- yeah, sure it is, a real pleasure. A buck-fifty in my pocket for meals; an itchy, ill-fitting suit on that I wouldn't even bother to throw away; 2 super-glomphs in their baggy blues leading me around, parading me even to the toilet, having between them the combined intelligence of a comic-book, dreaming of lemon gin and danger pay and vengeance for this assignment -- yeah, is it ever a genuwhine pleasure!)

"...and to have this opportunity of undressing you this afternoon.

(Here I am, looking at the Youth of Tomorrow -- acned juveniles, probably heavily armed, grinding themselves down into their seats (-- I can almost taste those little girls in the front rows --)

"I have been asked to tell you about why I went to prison and what has happened to me since I went in there.

(That's how they fixed my grammar; you should see what they did to my spelling.)

"I am serving out a life sentence with violence for Armed Robbery...

(The crowd always quiets here, and then begin buzzing again, as people point out for each other the tattoo's plastered on my hands and arms. The boys then continue punching each other and screaming in each other's faces, while the girls fan their little legs, giggling and pointing at me in loud whispers ("...he's cute!" "...hey! doesn't he look like Suzanne's brother, you know what's-his-name? the one who got killed inna army?")

"This is my sixth bit behind the walls of a prison. I'm 30 years old and altogether I've served over 12 years of my life in penitentiary and juvenile shelters.

(and then I always want to tell them: 'I'm six feet tall, weighing 180 pounds soaking sweat, horny as a toad, full of visible scars both internal and external, and it's been far too long a time since... well, nevermind -- if you can't see it you can certainly smell it)

"...Because of all the time I've lived

(-- that's not the word I chose)

behind the walls, I've never had the opportunity to get married or raise-up a family or owned my own house or automobile...

(I never had a puppy of my own either, and my brothers and sisters were all only-children)

"I've wasted most of my life finding ways to avoid work and my responsibilities as a citizen in society -- always looking for the easy way out...

(Actually that's a lie though the ghostwriters loved it, even though they couldn't make any more sense of it than I could. I've done more than my share to keep goons, fat-asses, fools and cop-outs employed by the Canadian Penitentiary Service. I'm only doing Time because some dangerous people with guns caught me, and if I'd known then what I do now, I'd be doing time for a hanging offense in a more comfortable spot -- like Hell or Floriday, any place warm.)

"It's taken me over 12 years to find out what prisons can do to people

(-- I

never claimed to be a fast learner --)

and what society is all about; and that's what I'm here to tell you about today. When I was your age, I used to think, as probably most of you do now, that prisons and being a tough-guy was really "cool"..."

(From here on in, it's pure finkery. If you wanna know, I never got to that point in the speech. Reaching that "what prisons can do to people" part I wasn't able to go any further. I just stopped and looked at them for a long long time.

So, it's "night time" down here in the land of midnight -- and for being cute, and thinking I could get away without suffering the consequences of my actions, I get to gloat on how rotten they are to me, to all of us -- as if I didn't know that before; and if I didn't I should have -- and think of myself as a noble creature.

I'm feeling really sorry for myself, and it feels really good. I've got a store-load of memories and images to use when I'm transporting myself to that island far-away; the land of little girls who dream of big ugly men like me, walking that island with hungry eyes and hands, coming after them but never catching them -- because just as we're about to grab them and do godknowswhat to them, a bell rings and it's time for them to grab their books and run to the locker room to change into their gym suits for recess....

o o o o o

We have a better way to do it.

By Ivan Paracy

THE PRESENT PRACTICE IN THIS PENITENTIARY IS TO FORBID PRISONERS TO WEAR THEIR own personal clothing when leaving the prison on Temporary Leave of Absence. During the two years that I have been here I have found it impossible to obtain a reasonable explanation as to why this policy is adhered to with such religious dedication. Instead, I have been supplied with such answers as, "that's the way we do things around here!"

For the benefit of our outside readers, I will briefly outline how the present method of issuing clothing is administered:

Once a person has been granted a Temporary Leave of Absence he is directed over to the issue unit building and fitted with a suit; not necessarily one that suits or even fits him but, instead, whatever might be available at the time. Should he be fortunate to be leaving on T.L.A. when not too many others are going, he then stands a much better possibility of being issued with clothing that fits and suits his particular build and appearance. However, the problem does not end with how a suit may fit or even look on the individual but goes much deeper to the real root of the problem. I, for one, (and I am certain there are many more persons who feel the same) do not relish the thought of wearing the same suit of clothing that another person may have worn (and even slept in) for the past three days and nights, especially if it was a person who might be of the belief that daily showers and the use of deodorants are not essential ingredients in the practice of good body hygiene; and, as depressing a fact as it might be, here in prison we are blessed with the same percentage of this type of person as people who live in the free world are. Who knows, possibly even a few more.

Some of our people will set aside that last bit of human dignity that he may be left with and go along with this unhygienic system, only because they are thankful to have been granted the T.L.A. and are not going to take the chance of blowing three days with their families by voicing complaints about the clothing they are forced to wear. At this point, I also am forced to throw in with these people, as spending three days out of prison with one's family is worth almost any degradation that one might be subjected to.

There are however, some people who refuse to wear previously worn, uncleaned clothing, and instead choose to wear their prison-issued leisure clothing until they reach their destination and are able to dress in their own clothing. If one is picked up at the front gate by family or friends, this method poses no real problem as he will probably not be required to be seen in public in his prison clothing. However, should he by chance be relying upon public transportation to reach his destination, he is then faced with a whole different set of circumstances.

There are two very simple solutions that would solve this problem:

Firstly; in the event that the person owns clothing that would be deemed presentable by the administration, he could be allowed to have these clothes removed from the personal effects department in order to wear them out on his T.L.A. This will no doubt create the problem of deciding what clothing will constitute "presentable attire" and what guidelines could be used by the person designated to make this decision. In view of the fact that a large number of the prison staff are no longer required to wear uniforms, and as a result now wear civilian clothing, staff dress could in all probability be used as a suitable guideline, as I am certain that all staff members see themselves as being dressed in a presentable manner when coming to work, and as such it would not appear out of line for the Penitentiary Service to allow prisoners to leave the penitentiary in a like attire when going out on a Temporary Leave of Absence.

The second, and probably most practical solution to the problem would be somewhat simpler; every prisoner in this penitentiary, with the possible exception of the odd lifer or any person who might be here under a dangerous sexual offender or

habitual criminal warrant, will someday be released, and according to penitentiary policy will be issued with a new suit of clothing when he leaves. In view of this fact, it appears to be a simple procedure to issue a "discharge suit" when a prisoner is granted his first Temporary Leave of Absence -- to be worn on this T.L.A. and all subsequent T.L.A.'s until the time of his release, either on parole or on mandatory supervision once his sentence has been completed.

The benefits from the implementation of this procedure would be numerous, but to look at a few, let us look at the predominate ones:

- (A) It would only involve fitting a person once during his entire stay in this penitentiary;
- (B) It would virtually eliminate a large stock of T.L.A. clothing having to be kept at penitentiary expense;
- (C) Every person going on a T.L.A. would be wearing clothing that fits him, and probably in a colour and style to suit his general appearance and age.

There is one totally invalid objection that will no doubt be voiced against this practice being adopted: that being, lack of facilities available for the storing of T.L.A. clothing while not in use by the person to whom it has been issued. This frivolous objection could easily be put down as utter nonsense, as there presently is a room in the issue unit building that is now used for storing the suits used for T.L.A.'s under the present system, and the room is of a size that it could easily accommodate all the suits that might be required under this proposed system.

The following practice could be adopted for the administration of this system, should it ever be implemented:

(A) The person would be fitted with his suit when going out on his first Temporary Leave of Absence;

(B) Upon returning from his T.L.A., he would put his suit, along with all other accessories, into a zippered plastic garment bag. (This should incur no great additional cost as, I am quite confident that if purchased in bulk, the federal government would no doubt purchase these plastic garment bags for something under seventy-five cents apiece.);

(C) The issue unit personnel would then affix a tag with the prisoner's name and number to the garment bag and hang it on the clothing rack, in its proper numerical order;

(D) When the person is granted another T.L.A. or is released (whichever comes first), he simply goes to the issue unit, gives the person his name and number; and, PRESTO!, he is then handed his garment bag containing his clothing in the exact same condition as he deposited it in;

(E) From time to time, a sponge and press will no doubt be required, but this should pose little or no problem as the issue unit building is equipped with a steam press, and the one resource we are definitely not short of in Springhill is manpower.

The implementation of this procedure should command no great outcry from the union representing the prison staff, as this system will still require the services of the one staff member who is presently in charge of issuing the T.L.A. clothing, and as such will not put anyone out of a job as a result of a more efficient method being adopted.

I personally hold little or no faith in this system ever being implemented in this penitentiary, as there are two very significant drawbacks to it: that being, it is all too simple, and all too practical.

AFTERTHOUGHT

There is one person who has this very system working for him right now, (and he is extremely fortunate that he has) as he is a heavily involved, hard worker and is out on T.L.A. at least three times a month. There are however, extenuating circumstances in his case: my friend is six-feet-four-inches tall; weighs two-hundred-and-eighty-five pounds; wears a size fifty-two sport coat and a pair of size forty-two inch slacks. This is probably the first time in his life that his massive size has worked to his advantage. From what he tells me, it certainly didn't help in the police line-up.

A Delight To The Senses

SYM RUSHTON sat perched on a long-legged stool in the center of the stage. The auditorium lights were down low, and a couple of spots shone down on him from overhead. It was a lonely place to be sitting; three hundred empty seats fronted the stage and the auditorium had a quiet, expectant feel to it.

He stretched his lean, wrangy frame in nervous expectation; the prisoners would be filing in through the door in the left-hand corner of the room, and he thought that this was no place for a Christian boy to be on an Easter weekend shadowed its way across his mind. He smiled, thinking of the image he created sitting there waiting for the lions to come in.

His smile was still lingering on his face when the first of the prisoners came through the door. What they saw was a lone figure sitting in the middle of the stage with a guitar in his hands, a "cheat bar" on the big Guild's neck at the third fret, and two microphones flanked by column speakers. His smile generated a quiet confidence -- he had done this many times before, and the knowledge of having survived hundreds of nights playing for beer-drinking, Saturday night audiences, sustained his faith in what he had come here to do.

The prisoners filled the seats in their usual manner: rows of seats were shuffled back and forth, bodies climbed over bodies in a way that could only be possible in a crowd of people who know one another, shouts and gibes echoed across the heads of the soon-to-be audience, seats scraped across the floor to settle in more advantageous locations, and after what seemed no more than five minutes of absolute chaos, the hall quieted.

SYM RUSHTON took over.

Sym opened his one-man concert for the prisoners of Springhill Institution with James Taylor's, "Fire and Rain." It was not what most of the men had been anticipating; most of us had gotten into expecting another Country and Western or Rock and Roll artist, and there were a good many of us who were pleasantly surprised.

His repertoire of songs were drawn from the writings of name-writers and performers such as: Cat Stevens, Murray McLaughlan, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, Chris Kristopherson, Paul Simon, John Denver, David Clayton-Thomas, Charlie Rich, Jose Feliciano, and a pair of his own songs.

SYM RUSHTON has been paying musician's dues for a considerable length of time and his expertise in rendering his musical abilities was evident in his performance. He possesses a profession-

alism that is rare in these parts but still retains the warm and friendly air that is of the Maritimes. His lyrics were delivered in a strong, clear tone but there was much flavoring in his voice that comes from hundreds of hours of practicing, interpreting and re-interpreting, so that the end result was a pleasingly quiet sureness in what he was doing. There were no cheap musical gimmicks used in his one-man show; his big Guild guitar filled the room with tasteful runs of pure pleasure, his mouth harp complemented the songs he chose to use it in, and his voice rode above his accompaniment in a well balanced and beautiful blending of the three instruments.

His own songs were the highlights of the afternoon's performance. His song depicting the birth of his first-born child and how he stayed at his wife's side during the actual delivery was a beautifully touching experience to share with his audience. "First Child" is a song we will be hearing on the radio, and I have no doubt it will bring SYM RUSHTON the recognition he deserves.

His second song is about grandmothers and is titled, "Grays and Blues" and is another SYM RUSHTON song that I expect to see on the AM-FM charts before very long.

For a while there I got into thinking about places I had been when I had first heard the songs that SYM RUSHTON sang and played for us, and if he accomplished only that one thing -- the ability to lift people above their troubles for a while -- I think that this in itself is a fabulous gift. I am sure that I am not alone when I say that SYM RUSHTON gave us an afternoon of "good times" and warm feelings that many of us have not touched on for far too long a time.

It was STU MURRAY, the Arts and Culture Officer, that approached SYM RUSHTON to come into the prison to perform for us, and I wish to acknowledge Stu's efforts by saying "thank you" for a fine concert of good music as laid down by a highly competent professional.

It is this writer's opinion that there should be more concerts brought to this prison, and especially for the men who aren't into sports and the usual fare of recreational activities. Concerts of this quality are an extremely worthwhile offering, and I hope we will have more of them.

An excellent performance Mr. RUSHTON, and "thank you" from three hundred people who appreciated your offering.

.....

B. E.



CLASSIFIED

ACTION ADS

THIS ISSUE HERALDS ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE COMMUNICATOR, OUR VERY OWN CLASSIFIED SECTION, "ACTION ADS". AMONGST THE RECENT DELUGE OF CURIOUS CORRESPONDENCE TO OUR EDITOR, WERE FOUND MOST OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW. AT OUR EMERGENCY STAFF MEETING, ALLUDED TO EARLIER IN THIS ISSUE, WE DECIDED TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE FOR OUR READERS, PRISONERS AND FREEMEN ALIKE. SUBMIT ALL ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE COMMUNICATOR STAFF, OR MAIL TO: CLASSIFIED, C/O THE COMMUNICATOR, P.O. BOX 2140, SPRINGHILL, N.S. GET IN ON THE "ACTION" NOW!

GUN FOR HIRE

Young man with experience seeks contracts after re-opening office. Will travel anywhere but is partial to Maritime Provinces. Reasonable rates.

CONTACT: George Bratsenis
Stamford, Conn.

* FOR SALE *

The authentic hockey puck that WARREN ALLMAND scored a goal with during the recent COPS & CONS game. Will trade for one dozen Sweet Marie chocolate bars.

CONTACT: Eddie Hibbert #9

* FOR SALE *

1952 Cadillac Sedan deVille silver gray with black vinyl roof. Hasn't been used since '53. Body perfect, tires somewhat weathered. Cheap!

CONTACT: P. Lifer,
Springhill.

WANTED

Photos of 1959 Shediac Lobster Queen Contest.

CONTACT: Chris Jennings
C/O COMMUNICATOR.

* FOR SALE *

Tape deck, can be heard clear across the unit, perfect after-lock-up tape deck.

CONTACT: Hard of Hearing,
#9, F Range.

* FOR SALE *

Do it yourself parole application kits, with a variety of solid pitches, including a new super pitch for repeaters and parole violators.

CONTACT: S. Smoothy, #11

* FOR SALE *

Costume jewelry, bracelets, rings, earrings, along with a great number of other goodies. Have the sharpest kid on the range.

CONTACT: H.O. Moe

TRADE

Three day T.L.A. to Halifax. Will trade for fifteen day T.A. to Vancouver and pay difference in canteen or front money.

CONTACT: Long Distance #9

* TRADE *

Positive Community report, will trade for three cans of weed, or best offer.

APPLY: Box 12, COMMUNICAT.

* FOR SALE *

Brand new gyrocopter kit, never been assembled, can be easily put together in your own cell with simple household tools and carried out to the exercise yard by two people. Reason for selling: I finally made parole.

SEE: Waiting Con #10

HELP WANTED

P.R. man with good relations is urgently required by the COMMUNICATOR, to mend strained relations between the COMMUNICATOR and Springhill Prison staff. Ideally the applicant should hail from local area.

CONTACT: Itzy #9

* FOR SALE *

Oct. 1972 issue of McLeans Magazine featuring Cpl. Jack Ramsey's expose of the R.C.M.P. This is a collector's item and will be sold to the highest offer.

CONTACT: Staff Library

HELP WANTED

Qualified construction crew to complete gymnasium building in local prison. No union members need apply, as the last thing we need is a strike.

CONTACT: Canada U-Build #3.

HELP WANTED

Writers are urgently required by the COMMUNICATOR. Apply in person. We are not an equal opportunity employer. We only hire convicts on a full-time basis.

* FOR SALE *

Handy manual titled, "How to Fool the Experts at Baseball."

CONTACT: Jeff Korn, Bx 1706
London, England.

Forbidden Offering

Remember early days before my capture,
a sprinkling erotic in nature...

a fragrance...

essence...

progress retrogress

progress retrogress

-progress-

retrogress progress

to explode tidal waves of passion

dispersed

within my dream lit bed at night.

Sleep induced and night begotten,

darkness grows

two familiar females all entangled

around my sleeping form.

Every night the same,

each dream the other's,

nothing altered between us three;

I see them come but I cannot stop!

Stroking fingers...

arms...

warm bodies...

nipples pointed upon heaving breasts,

flesh warmed gradually into burning embers

embedded ceremoniously onto vital parts

like the etchings of virgin lovers

carved upon some symbolic tree

in a park for which we shared a common memory.

Every night the same,

each dream the other's,

nothing altered between us three;

they hide waiting behind trees!

I touch...

I embrace...

I taste...

I grapple...

my tongue penetrating deeply into one,
the other in visions of the wild west
straddled electric upon my bucking body;
my fingers,
 cupped hands,
 and arms caress
 the expanse of flesh
 where both hesitantly brush.

Clamped...
holding...
fastened...
clinging...
their arms around each other,
 my body a pedestal
 upon which they grow;
their tongues meet in an offer
forbidden between two long lost sisters,
but they are more than just sisters,
 and I am more than just a pedestal.

Every night the same,
 each dream the other's,
 nothing altered between us three;

our moment is elevated to sacredness!

My keepers crash through locked doors and windows,
 faces marked by diseased repulsion;

in wicked desire my dreams imprisoned!

I tear myself startled from sleep,
my body pressed hard against the sheets;
an unpleasant taste clenched to my teeth
as if trying to defy the process of digestion.

The morsel half hangs onto my parched lips
as I am split into the faded outline of my cell,
and the avoided end of my interrupted dream
carried into consciousness as I wonder:

"Would I still be here if I woke before they shattered?"

Robbie Hebert
1975.

Slight Implications

Enter one old demagogue and one other demagogue

offering answers

no one ever longed for.

Higher Than Thou!

Higher Than Thou!

-- stretched evenly across their thin,

pale,

green lips.

In their hands,

a variety of games classified

for anyone possessed

by the kingdom of altitude.

Nothing hidden in terminology

was ever meant as an appeal

to any twist

in their ways.

They were priests

growing out of solemn hearts

to beg forgiveness.

Change the scenery

accentuating shadows

and other shades

of darkness.

Deep whispers clutch

at their open throats.

Thoughts crumpled

into strands

of some long forgotten harmony.

They crawl

down

endless corridors

-- a quick dip

in sterility.

Change the scenery

accentuating a loosening of their morality

and a breaking of their rules.

Solemn attitudes

gush out

of their foul mouths

to form misty walls

for an effortless capture.

Standing with their backs flat

against blank walls,

they search for excuses

upon which to base

their existence.

Change the scenery

accentuating riddles

and stolen clichés.

Dwelling in some strange complex

of martyrism,

they wish the world

would have waited

for them

before it started to suffer --

it would have been the gift

one receives

for having witnessed

something

which was at least

original.

Exit one old demagogue and one other demagogue

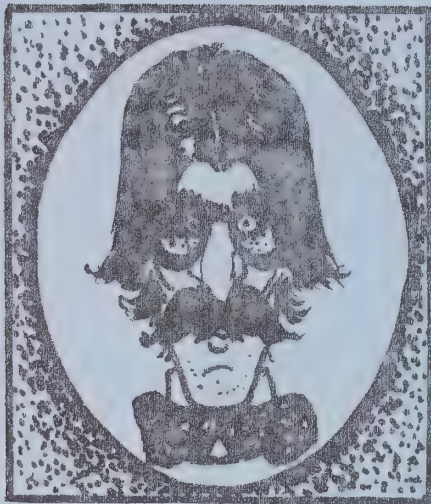
with their tails tucked

safely between their legs,

and praying for a merciful end.

Robbie Hebert - 1975.

LOOGANOSIS



OUR GUEST AUTHOR, CHRISTOPHER JENNINGS III, IS a twenty-seven year old native of Saint John, New Brunswick, and hails from solid Loyalist stock.

Young Christopher was brought up in the city's tough North-End by his ailing mother, Hortense, after his father deserted the family and ran off to Toronto with a woman from the Chinese Laundry on Mechanic Street, next to the C.N.R. freight sheds.

When Chris was twelve years old, his beloved mother died of the dreaded disease, Looganosis; a sickness she carried with her from childhood. The family was then split up, and young Chris went to live with his aunt, Henrietta MacPhearson, a retired hooker, living on welfare.

Despite the hardships of his youth, Chris went on to graduate with top honours from Reversing Falls High, where he earned Letters as captain of both the Floor Hockey and Looganball teams, and earning an honourable mention for his play in the All-City Dart Championships, during his Senior year. He was later accepted on a full Government Scholarship at the Tidal Bore Junior College, near Moncton, then earning his B.A. at Clamdigger University at Upper Middle Lower Musquidobiot on the Fundy Trail.

While at Clamdigger U., Chris Jennings met and married the former Sybil McLeish, from Grand Manan Island, ninth runner-up in the 1959 Shediac Lobster Queen Contest. After graduation, the Jennings' headed overseas, where Chris went on to pursue his post-graduate degrees at the world renowned Academy of Science and Rare Diseases, at Chittagong, Bangladesh (then East Pakistan). While at the Academy, Chris' interest in Looganosis took firm root, and he was able to gain invaluable knowledge, through field research in the lands where Looganosis is thought to have originated.

Eventually, Dr. Jennings returned to Canada via the British Isles, at the outbreak of hostilities in that God forsaken country, carefully retracing and documenting the route whereby Looganosis spread to the Western World.

Upon his return to the Maritimes in 1972, cold, broke, and hungry, Dr. Jennings was able to arrange an interview with Premier Hatfield, and obtain a Provincial "make work" Grant. This grant enabled him to further study the problem locally, and recommend programmes for retarding the spread of Looganosis, presently reaching epidemic proportions in Atlantic Canada.

After a thorough study, he was able to trace the heaviest concentration of carriers to Springhill. At this point his "make work" grant had run its course, and Dr. Jennings approached the C.P.S. with his volumes of documented data, suggesting they fund an independent study to research the problem in the natural setting at Springhill Penitentiary.

In view of the obscure nature of his

funding request, it was readily granted and young Dr. Jennings set upon his task in his new laboratory, which was more than adequately equipped with an ample stock of unsuspecting specimens. During his previous studies, Dr. Jennings had found that his best approach was to fall in anonymously with the crowds of afflicted persons (Loogans), and act as though he were one of them. In this way he could closer observe their unusual behavior and characteristics.

So it was, early this year that Christopher Jennings arrived at Springhill, under a solid C.P.S. cover, that could quite possibly go undetected for years. Dr. Jennings' reports will be published monthly in The COMMUNICATOR, so as to help familiarize prisoners and public alike, with this feared malady. One of the major problems found with Looganosis, and the principal hinderance in combatting this physical, emotional and moralcrippler, is that although the symptoms are obvious to the unafflicted, they remain inevident to those unfortunates who have been stricken.

It is with great honour, that we of The COMMUNICATOR staff, present this first report from Springhill on Dr. Jennings' breakthroughs in the field of Looganology and all of its manifestations. This first instalment will cover the history of Looganosis from its beginnings in Ancient times up to the modern epoch. Future reports will cover a Modern History, contemporary complexities of the enigma that is Looganosis, possible solutions, along with recommendations on the care and confinement for the terminally afflicted.

Chapter One:

An Early History Of LOOGANOSIS

EVIDENCE OF LOOGANOSIS PRE-DATES THE DAWN OF THE EARLIEST CIVILIZATIONS, IN what was later known as Mesopotamia, then referred to by historians as The Fertile Crescent. Early archaeologists tell of discovering strange drawings in deep subterranean caves of that region, depicting rather lewd and lascivious sexual unions, most often with their domesticated animals or captive wild beasts. Only when compared with other cave drawings of that period, was it noted that something was amiss. Upon excavation of these sites it was further discovered that the only artifacts left behind by these odd inhabitants were of a phallic nature. The eighteenth century Italian anthropologist Christororo Lugano was the first to document these findings, in his now famous text, Aberrant Sexual Behavior of Certain Cave Dwellers During the Second Millenium B.C. in Ancient Babylonia. Lugano noted that he never found any human remains during his twenty-five years of research, suggesting that the primitives were forced to abandon their lairs, possibly in search of other Homo Sapiens, as their numbers were rapidly dwindling due to their cannibalistic feeding habits. Shortly after writing this home, Lugano, succumbed to the previously unknown malady, caused by the still lingering spores of the long parted cavemen, since named Luganites in his honor. For the first time in modern history, Looganosis Terminalis was diagnosed as not only a social disorder but also a communicable disease, not to be taken lightly.

Previously, Greek and Roman historians wrote of encountering "Looganosis", then known as "Cursium Persianus", or the Persian Curse, in their journals of the great empire builders. The foremost, Ancient Greek historian, Thucydides, tells us of the Great Expedition to Persia, to battle the Assyrians for the ascension of the Golden Throne of Persopolis, (431-404 B.C.) during the Peloponesian War. Upon crossing the Hellespont into Asia Minor, the Greeks found themselves snowbound in the Western range of the Anatolian Plateau. Shortly thereafter, the Greeks discovered that the region was inhabited by a weird lot of barbarians.

Quoting from the text of Thucydides journal, Supernatural Phenomenon of the Pelopenisian War, "The cursed ones' faces were blank and expressionless, and the adult males exhibited quite unusual behavior. Large numbers of the barbarians were visibly intrigued with the droppings from our five thousand horses, mules, and sheep, relishing the touch and smell of the matter. It was found necessary to build stockades around the newly constructed latrines, used by our twenty thousand soldiers, to keep out the vandals and prevent an outbreak of disease by the dissemination of the feces, by the cursed ones during their nightly foraging through our camp.

At first, it was held that these barbarians were in actuality Assyrian mercenaries employed as intelligence agents, disguising their mission by distracting us with their crazed habits. This view was discarded, and their behavior was attributed to some strange Eastern rite that might have been practiced in this area, thus respecting the fact that even the Assyrians would find this form of subterfuge repulsive.

After many long months, the snows receded from the mounts, enabling us to resume our trek eastward. The more outrageous of the barbarians followed our train closely, gazing at our animals, as someone might at a group of virgins or pubescent youths. While engaged in this behavior, the louts communicated by the use of sign language, which at closer inspection, was seen to be of a suggestive nature."

Still further evidence of Looganosis was found in an unreported portion of Dead Sea Scrolls, which up until recently was untranslatable, but since deciphered by my colleagues and I at the Academy of Rare Diseases, Chittagong, and from it was unlocked some of the various aspects and stages of Looganosis:

It was found that in the early stages, the unfortunates were struck dumb, and their eyes and faces were left expressionless, confirming earlier reports. The intermediate stages were found to be more severe, as "the unfortunates" (as they were referred to by the Hebraic scholars) then exhibited bizarre eating habits, using their hands to shovel their food into their mouths, completely disregarding the fact they had just been handling animal droppings. It was found the luckless ones had to rip the meat off in large chunks, instead of bite size pieces, using their porcelain-hard gums, as by this stage they had inevitably lost their teeth. Note was also made regarding their strange sexual behavior, exemplified by their use of forced rape,

without exception, when the urge to perform the act struck them. Foreplay and words of affection were unknown characteristics of these brutes, and indeed, it was discovered there weren't any words (sic) for "love" in the lexicon of their sign language. Mention was also made, that the unavailability of females on certain occasions, such as hunting parties, did not inhibit them in seeking out other creatures as possible mates.

The ensuing stage of terminal looganosis was so gruesome that accounts of it are very rare in early annals. The horror immediately preceding death is pointed out in a quote from one of the few recorded descriptions of the time; this one from the Roman Historian, Cato the Elder, from a manuscript unearthed amid the ruins of the Great Library at Alexandria, Egypt titled, A Narrative History of the Roman Legion at the Height of the Empire: "A campaign hardened Legionnaire was so appalled by the sight of it all, that he keeled over and died of apparent heart failure and/or shock, after a few minutes of observing one of the "savages" in the final hours of the death throes of the Persian Curse, while returning from the battle of Judea in 96 A.D." At about this time, it is believed the original tribe was split up into thirteen lesser tribes and, in nomadic fashion, broke off into divergent directions. No known explanation could be found to explain this abrupt dispersion, mainly due to the fact that twelve of the tribes have been unaccounted for since.

The next reliable account of the existence of Looganosis comes to us via the diary of an itinerant French Knight, on his journey to the Holy Land during the Third Crusade in 1020 A.D. While marching through the deserts of The Seljuk Kingdom (western Turkey today), prior to the battle of Antioch against the Arabian hordes of the Sultanate of Damascus, he came upon a group of nomads engaged in an exotic game, played with elephant tusks and road apples. He was later informed that this game was known as Sand Dune Ha-kee, as opposed to the other forms of Ha-kee, played whenever and wherever possible by the "demented" nomads. The French knight, Guillaume Cormier, Duke of Hasheeshy under Charlemange, noted that "Les Miserables" were oft following his camp about on their trek, back and forth through the Holy Lands, scavenging on the bodies left on the battlefields. Unfortunately for later European history, "miserable ones" brought back as slaves, and later returning to their native lands on the next Crusade, were able to tell their tribes of the civilizations to the west where they could reside more comfortably, as compared to the life they were living under the repression of their Muslim rulers. Though the Crusades saved the Holy Land from Moslem domination, they opened up eastern Europe to the wandering "miserables".

By the turn of the thirteenth century, the majority of the afflicted "unfortunates" (referred to from here on as Looganites, though named so much later on in history), had drifted northwesterly and were then centered in what is now known as the Ukraine. In the following centuries, the disease Looganosis was found to have spread the entire length and breadth of the European continent, but that will be discussed later on. The largest band of Looganites in the Ukraine were living on the public dump on the outskirts of the city of Kiev, by the banks of the great Dnieper River. The Ukranians, noting the gathering mass of bizarre beings at the gates of their capital city, being the industrial lot they are, felt certain these heathens could be taught to work, and thus become productive members of the civilized world. They herded up all the Looganites in the area, now numbering some twenty-five thousand, and seeing that the large majority of them were in a state of virtual starvation, proceeded to feed them a stable diet of Borscht, Pudahah, and Halopchie. The Hunkies moved the Looganites to a newly-cut wheat field and set them up in tents and shacks in preparation for the harvest which was about to begin.

It was intended that the Looganites would collect the bundles of wheat sheaves and build them into stooks. The Bohunks felt this simple task could be handled, even by the Looganites, as it had previously been done by small children. After just a few hours in the field, the Bohunks were aghast at the total lack of motivation exhibited by the Loogans, as they had only managed to stook about 2 ½ acres out of the sixteen thousand they had been assigned. By this time it had dawned on the Hunkies that they had been put-through by the Looganites for free room and board, and they would have to take stern measures in eradicating the problem from their midst.

With the putting-through of the Bohunks, began the breaking up of this voracious tribe and their dispersion throughout the entire European continent, in a move that almost equaled the great "Diaspora" of the Jews from Egypt, if not in scope, then at least in essence. The wrath of the Hunkies has been rarely equaled in later history, as the Looganites, separated into smaller bands, were mercilessly driven out of their new-found land, their ranks having been drastically reduced in the process. In less than a fortnight the Hunkies were rid of the ungrateful Loogans, as they

spread in all directions into the various surrounding Sovereignities and Kingdoms of Medieval Europe, heralding the advent of the Dark Ages. Not a single country was spared the taint of Looganosis. It should be noted that, with the arrival of the Looganites, though they stayed but a short time, the Ukraine fell into a period of moral and economic decline from which they never recovered.

Latter-day historians have been able to trace the routes of the five largest Looganite bands, as they made their way from the Ukraine, to only God knew where.



One group headed northwest through Lithuania, across the Baltic Sea and into Sweden and Norway, where they were summarily exiled to the northern tundra. The modern-day Lapps are said to be descendants of this band.

A second splinter group was forcibly marched southward to the Black Sea, where they were set adrift in sailless boats to fend for themselves. Although the Looganites were wholly without maritime experience, and most have never been heard from since, a surprisingly large number of them reached the northern shores of Turkey. While heading back to the lands of their ancestors, they were intercepted by a regiment of Ottoman foot soldiers, who, thinking the Loogans another Greek Expeditionary Force, relentlessly slaughtered them in a fierce battle, now known as the "Battle of the Contagions". Unfortunately for the Turks, though they lost but few men in the batter proper, seventy thousand were stricken down by the ravaging disease spread by the rotting corpses of the Looganites, for which they held no natural immunity. This battle seems to have contributed, in large part, to the eventual downfall of the Ottoman Empire.

Still another group struck to the southwest into Hungary. The Hungarians, noting the ensuing turmoil in the Ukraine, caused by the advent of the Looganites, wanted no part of them either, and escorted them to their western boundary. This same scenario was performed at the borders of The Holy Roman Empire, The Frankish States, and the Kingdom of Aragon, with the Looganites finally coming to rest in the Kingdom of Castile, now known as Spain. The Castillians also had plans for putting these unfortunates to good use, but after a few centuries of hassling, the Looganites were abruptly exterminated during the Great Inquisition when the mood of the country turned to serious matters and the tom-foolery of the Loogans could no longer be tolerated.

Still another clan headed off to the Russian States to the northeast, intending to seek their fortune in the prosperous Principality of Moscow. What they sought and what they found were two different things; only misfortune was theirs to find. Upon the Looganites making camp on the outskirts of Moscow, a small contingent was sent in to the city proper to negotiate with the Ruskies. What transpired remains a mystery, as they weren't heard from again. Alarmed, the main body of Looganites quickly broke camp, or shall we say broke-up the camp, and fled into the wilderness. For forty years they wandered about the vast forests and icefields of the Russian Steppes, trying to find a route back to their homeland in Persia. Eventually they stumbled into the Khanate of the Golden Horde, ruled by the descendents of Attila the Hun. Needless to say, you can imagine what happened next. The Huns, who were busy making preparations for war against the Georgian Turks, when they sighted the approaching mob, thought this an excellent opportunity to give their cavalry some needed practice. Charging through the ranks of Looganites, they easily dispatched with the majority, seizing the survivors as porters for their war caravan. This was a tragic mistake, however, as by the time the Huns had reached the battlefield by the Caspian Sea, they had lost most of their men to insanity, as Looganosis did its thing. Shortly thereafter the Khanate was annexed to the Georgian Kingdom, which in turn suffered the same consequences, as they were subsequently annexed into the Ottoman Empire.

By far the largest group of Looganites, numbering some ten thousand, left the Kiev wheatfield heading due west through Poland. This band was led by the most famous Loogan of all history, Illieway Ibbsgay, "The Tatted Tartar", the sand-dune Ha-kee champ of all the Looganites, skilled Skinner and scavenger supreme. Under the leadership of Ibbsgay and his top lieutenant Igbay Erniebay, this group of Looganites became a force to be reckoned with. No longer would they be looked upon as outcasts to be pushed around. For two hundred years this band roamed the continent seeking a home they could call their own, meanwhile spreading the dreaded disease, Looganosis, throughout the Kingdoms they travelled. History tells us this scourge, then known as the "Black Plague", decimated entire populations and turned Europe into a living Hell. Only when the scourge had ended, did the rulers of the various sovereignties realize the Looganites had caused this calamity. In 1360, a council of heads of states was convened in Augsburg, Germany, of the Holy Roman Empire to deal with the Looganite problem.

Though the plague had run its course, the Augsburg Council decided to rid their continent of the ever growing Looganite horde, now numbering in the area of one-hundred and fifty thousand souls. A pailn was devised whereby the Looganites would be baited into the Danish Peninsula, with a canal being dug behind them, sealing off the mainland. The Looganites, now massed near the city of Hamburg, were fed reports of the existence of a large tribe of Nordic Amazons, camped at Flensburg, Denmark, who were in need of new mates to propagate their virgins, in order to increase their numbers. With the Looganites in need of females themselves, due to losses sustained by their savage mating habits, they fell for the trap, hook line and sinker, and headed north to satiate their lust.

However, the best laid plans of men often turn awry, and this was just the case here; a funny thing happened on the way to the Flensburg virgins, the Looganites crossed paths with a giant herd of Bison, heading down the coast of the North Sea, on its yearly migration. Sensing opportunity, the Looganites gave chase, with visions of a lifetime supply of road apples for their Ha-kee dancing in their eyes. The forces of the Council, lying just a few miles south of Hamburg, ready to seal off the peninsula, were caught in the ensuing stampede, one of such magnitude, the Archduke of Ghent was heard to remark, "Never in history have we owed so little, to so many." Once again, the Council was convened, and taking stock of the situation, it was agreed that nothing further could be done, save a prayer from the Pope for deliverance.

By 1387, the Looganites had reached the coast of Normandy, after laying waste to the lowland Kingdoms of the Netherlands, still searching for the promised land. They made camp on the Normandy beaches, holing up in the caves, while fishing boats were dispatched in order to restock their dwindling food supply; the Buffalo meat having recently run out. While the main body of Loogans were engaged in a Beach Ha-kee tournament the next day, the Looganite fishermen returned with nary a fish in hand, but with reports and descriptions of a great island off into the sea, with gleaming white cliffs. Enchanted with this vision, Illieway Ibbsgay, ordered his people back into the boats, and proceeded to the white-cliffed island, for there he thought would be found the land of their dreams.

April 1, 1387, will be noted in history as the day Looganosis invaded the British Isles, with the Looganites landing at Plymouth, which turned out to be pro-

phetic in more ways than one, and will be explained further in my next report. Accounts of this landing reached the ears of the Royal Court, who mistakenly thought that this was their victorious Army returning from the Hundred Years War, thus laying out the Royal carpet for the Looganites as they marched inland towards London, with masses of people lining the roads, cheering them on. Thusly, were the Looganites convinced they had indeed "come home."

So ends this first report on Looganosis. Next month's issue will feature the continuing history of Looganosis, from the "Great Shock" of London, up 'till the present day. Don't miss the next installment of "LOOGANOSIS."

HOWARD HOUSE

HOWARD HOUSE IS A COMMUNITY RESIDENCE in SYDNEY, N.S. for men on full parole, mandatory supervision, or probation.

Some of the goals of the residence are:

- * Provide support for the ex-offender until he can find support for himself in other places.
- * Provide a stable environment yet one flexible enough to accommodate the individual.
- * Help the ex-offender develop and carry out realistic release plans by aiding him in finding employment or further educational opportunities.
- * Help the ex-offender relearn family roles, individual and group interrelationships outside of penitentiary that he may have forgotten or never experienced.
- * Encourage and help the resident in his process of self-awareness and self-growth.

We have an Admissions Committee comprised of representatives from National Parole Service, Adult Probation, John Howard Society, the police and the religious community. They screen all applicants and prefer to review individuals prior to the commencement of their parole so that they can build realistic release plans around their acceptance here.

The Admissions Committee will look at them as an individual and assess the man's record, background, attitude and need.

As soon as a decision is made on each case a letter will be forwarded to the inmate explaining the reasons for his rejection or acceptance. The entire process should not take longer than two weeks if we have all available information about each applicant.

The residence is for all Nova Scotians but we will favor Cape Bretoners first.

Anyone interested in applying to Howard House should fill out our appli-

cation form entirely and post it to: HOWARD HOUSE, P.O. Box 384, SYDNEY, Nova Scotia. It is recommended that each inmate's classification officer enclose with the application a personal assessment of the man and any other information. The House Director, Ms. Corrine Lynds, lives in the residence and her duties are: overseeing maintenance and development of the physical plant, staff training and supervision, casework with the residents, and community education.

There are two night supervisors who take turns working the 7 P.M. to 7 A.M. shift daily. They teach the men life skills such as carpentry, plastering, painting, photography, etc. and play darts, floor hockey and other games with them.

Monday night is House Night - a night to do something as a group, be it rap sessions or viewing films. Residents are expected to participate.

On Tuesday evenings we go to the YMCA and play other groups in floor hockey.

All residents are expected to make themselves available for house meetings and individual counselling sessions.

There are other house rules such as no drinking or drugs, etc. but they are few in number and are designed for the good of everyone and for the good of the house.

Howard House is not a boarding home but a private home and every effort is made to insure a family atmosphere and a family life living situation.

In order to encourage residents to develop sufficient self-reliance and self-confidence and to prevent possible dependencies upon the staff or the house, all individuals will be terminated after a three month period. If, however, it is apparent that the man needs to remain at Howard House for a longer period, his case will be reassessed by the Admissions Committee and may be readmitted for an additional three months. *****

CON-ACT ACTING & WRITING WORKSHOPS ARE ALIVE &well?

SINCE THE LAST COMMUNICATOR REPORT THE Workshops have diversified their activities to include outside community projects into their training curriculum.

The Neptune Theatre Company, through its Artistic Director, John Wood, has extended its interest in the workshop's activities making it possible for workshop members to attend three of its major productions this season. Throughout these past 3 months, the workshops have travelled to Halifax's Neptune Theatre to view three productions as performed by that company. The group attended John Wood's productions of "Pinnochio" at the Rebecca Cohen Auditorium, and "Hamlet" at Neptune, and "You Can't Take It With You."

Each of these productions were beneficial to the workshop members, providing exposure to professional theatre that has benefitted the CON-ACT members in many observable ways.

The opportunity to observe the highly expert manner in which Neptune Theatre Company handles various aspects of stagecraft, such as lighting, set design, musical and taped background techniques, has all been supportive of the general learning process the CON-ACT members have been exposed to during the five month period the Workshops have existed.

The visits to view the productions of Neptune Theatre Company have also been supportive in the sense that exposure to professional acting and stagecraft is giving the workshop members a better understanding of how certain problems related to stage presentation are overcome by professionals in the field.

The workshop members are also learning how to evaluate what is good stagecraft and what is not. The Neptune Theatre Company being one of the finest in the country gives the workshop members an opportunity to see acting at its best.

The internal dynamics of the workshops are still functioning at the high degree of intensity they possessed from the early months of their existence. This says much for the work they are involved in as prison programs always have difficulty in retaining the interest they at first experience. It is this writer's view that much of this keen interest and complete involvement can be attributed to the CON-ACT Instructor's energy and dedication to his work, and I am sure that all those in contact with STEPHAN REGINA-THON will agree that his competence and absolute dedication are major

factors to making the CON-ACT Workshops the valuable training program it is.

Two original dramatic works have come out of the Springhill CON-ACT Workshops. One, "KING KON," a traditional, full-length play; and the other, "RECEPTION AND DISCHARGE (A Therapeutic Dream)" have both been written by members of CON-ACT Programs, and will eventually be performed by the actors in the workshops.

"...and all the queen's men" -- a presentation of the writings and other art of men in the Dorchester Penitentiary as performed by the men of the medium-security prison at Springhill, Nova Scotia is in-rehearsal and will be ready for production soon.

The workshop members are also in-rehearsal with Rick Cluchey's, "The Cage," a Oliver Hailey's, "Picture."

Michael Ondattje's, "The Man With Seven Toes," and Tennessee Williams', "In A City of Winters," collections of poems, will be delivered as dramatic recitations. Williams' collection has not been performed before, making this presentation one of the workshops' original contributions to the performing arts.

The workshops produced a video-tape of its activities in January 1975, and after showing the tape to the administration here, interest has increased in the program's possibilities as a regular contribution to the overall programs of the institution.

The National Parole Service and the Solicitor General's Department have also expressed an interest in the possible avenues CON-ACT could take in the near future, and there is hope that this program will be extended to include participation with the theatre community outside.

The National Film Board has continued to sponsor and support the workshops, and "Challenge for Change" has become involved in the program through the participation of Mr. Fred Ward of the National Film Board's office in Halifax. These kinds of community participation are badly needed to make any program within the walls work, but it is even more necessary for a program with the intentions and potentials of the CON-ACT Workshops. The men are serious about becoming actors and writers, and they need the support and encouragement of the outside community if they are to gain the opportunity to gain recognition for their abilities.

B.E.

ABOUT P.L.S.

BY NOW MOST OF YOU HAVE HEARD OF Penitentiary Legal Services (P.L.S.). For those of you who have not heard of this organization and for those of you who have heard and wish to know more the following is a short breakdown of the operations and some of the cases initiated by P.L.S.

P.L.S. is a privately funded project and provides legal aid to Dorchester Penitentiary, Springhill and Westmoreland Institutions on a full-time basis. An Executive-Director/lawyer and three para-professionals, to give them their formal title, carry the bulk of the interviewing, counselling and document drafting under the direct supervision and guidance of the Executive-Director. The Executive-Director makes most of the court appearances and cases are sometimes referred to other legal aid agencies. In this way P.L.S. serves as a liaison with the various legal aid agencies of the Maritime Provinces. Areas covered by the service include criminal appeals, family law problems, creditor/debtor problems, day parole, full parole and mandatory supervision.

This organization is also interested in assisting inmates, and ex-inmates to establish projects and self-help groups which benefit the inmate, ex-inmate, parolees and their families.

The following are some examples of the problems and cases handled by P.L.S.

(1) One of the most recent cases handled by P.L.S. involved a declaratory relief application in the Federal Court of Canada - Trial Division. The inmate in question was sentenced prior to the changes in the Parole Act which came into effect in August 1969, released on day parole in 1971 and his day parole was subsequently forfeited by a conviction for an indictable offence. It was contended that the inmate should lose no statutory remission upon forfeiture of his day parole and that in fact his day parole could not be forfeited, merely terminated. The Federal Court did not agree and the application was denied. Part of the judgement in this case was over-turned in an Ontario case and P.L.S. is presently appealing the decision. With the help of the recent decisions from Ontario, the appeal has a good chance of success.

(2) An inmate was charged with an offence in disciplinary court and approached the service for advice. He was advised to signify his desire to have counsel present at his hearing. This was done in the hope of setting up a test case situation to determine whether or not an inmate could have counsel present at such hearings. The inmate appeared before the board, asked for counsel, and was convicted but no punishment was imposed. Because no punishment was imposed no appeal was launched.

(3) P.L.S. staff are often approached with problems relating to sentence calculation, particularly interpretation with regards to the Parole Act. In one case the inmate was convicted of an indictable offence while on Mandatory Supervision. His Mandatory Supervision was forfeited and he was returned to the penitentiary. While computing his sentence the administrator mistakenly interpreted the Parole Act and one Warrant of Committal. This was brought to his attention, the matter was resolved and the inmate was re-credited with two months.

(4) In another case two inmates were each sentenced to 1 year imprisonment for Break and Enter and were incarcerated in Springhill Institution. The Crown appealed their sentences and they were represented by P.L.S. at the appeal hearing. The Crown's appeal was unsuccessful and the sentences remained at 1 year.

(5) In this matter the inmate had not been living with his wife for 13 years. He wished to obtain a divorce and custody of the children of the marriage. The divorce hearing will be heard in the Spring.

(6) P.L.S. also assists inmates in filing for bankruptcy under the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs personal bankruptcy program. In one case the documents were filed on behalf of the inmate and a Temporary Leave of Absence was arranged so that he could meet with a representative of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and his creditors. *****

UNISON

Sydney

Halifax

'Working with the female offender'

J.C. CHARTER ANNIVERSARY

By David Bloomfield

THE SPRINGHILL JAYCEE'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY of charter was celebrated Saturday night, April 5, with a banquet in the recreation building at Springhill Penitentiary, commemorating that unit's first year of full chartership. The unit has been operating in Springhill Pen since 1971, but only as a fully recognized chapter of Jaycees International since 1974.

The evening's program was presented in a straightforward and low key manner, however, not without a visible undercurrent of emotion, affecting the gathered, due to the importance of the occasion. Bernard Kervin, President of the Springhill Jaycees, most ably emceed the function. With his usual, remarked organizing and co-ordinating abilities quite in evidence, the night's activities ran smoothly along with nary a hitch.

The fact that the banquet was obviously well planned and arranged by the Jaycees themselves, suggested that this anniversary ceremony was something more than just that; it was also a testimonial to the fact that the Springhill Jaycees have come a long way and into their own as a cohesive, credible, concerned, and committed unit, a credit to corrections, community, and Canada herself.

The evening's events got under way after the Jaycees and their invited guests mingled about for an hour or so, getting used to each other, the surroundings, finding their seats, and settling down to the matters at hand. With the "call to order", the attention of the assembled was directed to the dais, and Bernard Kervin in particular, as he handed the mike over to Bruce Walker, past president of the Jaycees, who lead the coterie in the recital of the Jaycee Creed. The assembly remained standing for the National Anthem, welcoming comments by Kervin, a "toast to the Queen", given by Bob Moran, first President of the Springhill Jaycees, and the invocation lead by Father Hallett, the Roman Catholic Chaplain of Springhill Pen.

With the conclusion of the opening ceremonies it was on to the buffet table, for the evening's meal and refreshments, supplied by the Jaycees and attractively laid out by the dining room staff, on hand to assist the guests. Everyone seemed eager to sample the plentiful and varied fare proffered. We were treated

to a spread consisting of roast beef, sliced ham, salami, bologna, potato salad, cole slaw, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, sliced tomato, fresh coffee, and other assorted goodies. With appetites appeased, the crowd turned noticeably more alive and at ease with themselves.

The affair was again called to order, for the introduction of the guests seated at the head table. The following were so honored: Mr. Bob Moran; his fiancée, Miss Beth Neilly; Mr. Dennis Chipman, National Corrections Officer for Canada Jaycees; his wife, Mrs. Dennis Chipman; Mr. Bob Childs, Assistant Director of Socialization at Springhill; his wife, Mrs. Bob Childs; Gwen Cameron, Chairperson of the Citizen's Advisory Committee; her escort, Mr. Paul Miles; Mr. Charles Lawson, Executive Vice President of Canada Jaycees; his wife, Mrs. Charles Lawson; Mr. Marvin Armstrong, National Vice President for the Atlantic Region Jaycees; his wife, Mrs. Marvin Armstrong; Father Bob Hallett; Mr. Ken Sutherland, Regional Director Jaycees; the Honourable Dave MacDonald, M.P. for Egmont, P.E.I.; Mr. Bernard Kervin; and his fiancée, Miss Evelyn McGlone.

Immediately following the introduction of the dais, Mr. Bob Childs, Mr. Bob Moran, Mr. Charles Lawson, and Mr. Dennis Chipman, each in turn took the speakers' lectern to deliver messages of greetings from their respective offices. Mr. Mel Young, an inmate at Springhill, proceeded at that point to introduce his friend and guest speaker, the Honourable Dave MacDonald, M.P.

The highlight of the evening was reached with Dave MacDonald taking center stage. Mr. MacDonald delivered a noteworthy address, concerning the recent re-emergence of the "capital punishment" question throughout Canada, and the right of prisoners to vote (as proposed in Bill C-222, an act to amend the Canada Elections Act) presently awaiting further debate in Parliament. Mr. MacDonald impressed this reporter, with his call to maintain a rational view, and resist the temptation to join in with the popular, but uninformed movement, to reinstate the death penalty. Noting that "state induced violence" is a rather primitive and unsophisticated reaction to the angst created by certain crimes, Mr. MacDonald brought to his audience a graphic aware-

ness of the extent of the growing mood of fear in this country today. He strongly voiced his opposition to the death penalty, and induced a nervous titter from the assemblage when he likened the harsh solution to his analogy of the young boy being carried into the doctor's office. Said Mr. MacDonald, as the doctor, "Why you're a foolish little boy for having gone and broken your leg; now to teach you a lesson, I will have to break the other one."

Mr. MacDonald then informed the gathered of Bill C-222, pending in Parliament, introduced by himself, emending the Canada Elections Act, by enfranchising prisoners as persons having the right to vote. He pointed out that the real issue regarding this proposal was not the political implications, but the effect this would have on individual prisoners, in preserving their dignity as responsible members of society. At the conclusion of his address Mr. MacDonald welcomed comments and questions from the audience. A few in attendance responded to the invitation, but I feel that the majority felt as I did; Dave MacDonald said it all!

Following Mr. MacDonald, Ken Sutherland, Regional Director Jaycees, was called upon to induct the new members of the Springhill unit. Some thirty-eight members took to the stage to take the Jaycee Oath. Mr. Sutherland remarked that this was the largest group he had ever witnessed inducted into the Jaycees. When the induction was completed, Bruce Walker again took over the ceremonies to present the awards to this year's outstanding Springhill Jaycees. The awards presented were as follows: J.C. of the Month for January, Kerry Cobham; J.C. of the Month for February, Pat Brennan;

J.C. of the Month for March, Jim Millen; Committee of the Month for January, "House and Programs", David Hamm accepting; Committee of the Month for February, "Resolution Committee", accepting Darcey Lumn; Committee of the Month for March, "Anniversary Committee", Don Leroy accepting; Certificates of Appreciation; Ker Sutherland (Regional Director), Craig Dunlap; Committee of the Year, "Accent on Youth", Bob Bailey accepting, Certificate of Merit, Blair DeBaie; Certificate of Honour, Dennis Chipman; bouquet of roses to Mrs. Chipman; Jaycee of the Year Award (1974-1975), Bruce Walker.

A Certificate of Appreciation, a Team Atlantic "T" shirt, was presented to the Fredericton Jaycees, who in turn presented Springhill Jaycees with a flag of their own unit. A plaque was presented to Stewart Murray for "Outstanding Effort" (1974-1975), amidst a standing ovation. The awards ceremonies were fittingly concluded amidst another standing ovation, when Bernard "Baby Snooks" Kervin was awarded a plaque for "Outstanding Leadership" (1974-1975), for his achievements in bringing the Springhill Jaycees up to the calibre of unit they are today.

As a windup to the evenings' events, special thanks were given to the people who made the banquet possible, notably, Blair DeBaie and his co-workers, Stu Murray and the administration, the kitchen staff and the general population, and most of all to those assembled. All too soon the festivities were over, the clock had struck ten. Oh well, we can only look forward to the Second Anniversary Charter Banquet next year; with the Jaycees seemingly having "gotten it all together", that is more than a possibility, it is just about a certainty.



13 CHURCH ST., AMHERST, N.S.

Ph. 667-8434

sports equipment and
TEAM uniform outfits

Distributors of CIL paints



DEAR ITZY!?

THE COMMUNICATOR HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED A NUMBER OF OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY "Letters to the Editor" soliciting advice to problems of an amorous nature. Our initial response was one of surprise and confusion as to how we should handle this type of correspondence. It was decided at the conclusion of a hastily called emergency staff meeting that we would add a Lovelone Advice Column to our content, and appoint a special correspondent to handle the topic. The assignment of finding a qualified columnist was passed on to our newly appointed Associate Editor, Dave Bloomfield.

At our next staff meeting Dave claimed to have found the "right" man for the job, tucked away in the inner recesses of one of the Living Units. This man chooses to remain anonymous and is known to us only by his nickname, "Itzy." This sounded rather suspicious as none of the COMMUNICATOR staff know of a con going by the name of Itzy, and we further suspect that "Itzy" is in actuality a cover-name for Dave himself. We're nonetheless happy to announce the addition of our new column titled, "DEAR ITZY."

All concerned readers should address letters to: DEAR ITZY, C/O The Communicator, P.O. Box 2140, SPRINGHILL, Nova Scotia.

The COMMUNICATOR reserves the right to publish such letters (names withheld upon request), except if otherwise noted, in which case they will be answered privately through the mail. With permission of the people involved, we present the letters already received, along with "Itzy's" replies. We hope our readers will respond to this service, as we feel this is an area much neglected by Prison Publications, yet of vital interest to prisoners and their loved ones.

See if you can stump "Itzy" with your problem!

Dear Itzy:

I have a sticky problem that I am hoping you can help me work out. I do not know where else to turn, and as I've been an avid reader of the COMMUNICATOR since my boyfriend Cyril's last bit, I thought I would seek your help.

My problem is this:

Cyril has been recently hit with a fifteen year sentence for buggery. His partner in crime, Winston, inexplicable beat the rap. Previous to Cyril's arrest we had been living with Winston and his sheepdog, Rover. Since the end of the trial I have been kept busy fending off Winston's licentious advances, but he is now wearing me down with his rap. Winston claims that he and Cyril have always split things fifty-fifty and I shouldn't be an exception to the rule.

Now, I'm confused. What should I do? Please help me Itzy.

Sincerely confused,

Sybil McCliesh

Dear Confused Sybil,

I find that the solution lies within the problem itself: Winston has an obviously bogus rap! Contrary to his claims he hasn't always split things fifty-fifty with your boyfriend Cyril; if that is the case, why isn't Winston sharing Cyril's fifteen years, and, again, ask yourself this: "If Winston was on the dirty end of the stick, how did he get his ass off the hook?"

However, I don't think you should repress your natural desires and wait for Cyril; with his beef it's quite unlikely he'll catch an early parole and, besides, you can bet your boots he's still up to the same old tricks that landed him here in the first place!

Yours in sympathy,

Itzy

Dear Itzy,

I realize finding this letter under your office door is unusual but I feel you can help me with a problem that's been troubling me. I've previously approached my Range and Classification Officers with my problem, but was met with icy glares and threats of being thrown in the Adjustment Centre if I didn't get out of their sight.

What troubles me is this:

On her last visit while waiting for me at V. & C., my girlfriend, Gladys was approached by a V. & C. Officer who rudely remarked about the noxious odor that was the scent of her perfume. When I reached V. & C., Gladys threw the bottle of perfume I had sent her on her last birthday in my face, stormed out, and I haven't seen her since. Through a girlfriend of her's, I just found out that she's planning to visit me once more to tell me that we're finished. As I have another five years to do, I can't afford to lose her. What should I do to win back my sweetheart's love? I'm desperate!

(Name withheld upon request)

Dear Desperate,

This is a tough question to answer, but I'll do my best. I think you should try to postpone Gladys' visit and wait till you're out on a T.L.A. before attempting a reconciliation. Your own experience points out the fact that V. & C. is no place to carry on a romance; what with the Bulls sticking their noses into things of this nature.

At that time I suggest you present her with another token of your affection, such as a gift subscription to The COMMUNICATOR -- unless of course you feel our paper stinks worse than her perfume. If this tactic fails, you could throw yourself at her mercy like the scene similar to the one you pulled at your sentencing. This, however, seldom works, as you well know. If at this point you have not succeeded in winning back your sweetheart's love, I advise you to pack her in. Any woman who walks out on her boyfriend in the prison visiting room over a Bull's remarks isn't worth the hassle in the first place. Time heals all wounds, and by the time you get out of Springhill, your broken heart will have had more than ample time to heal.

ITZY.

Dear Itzy,

I hope you don't find my writing you concerning the following presumptuous but I find myself at wit's end with the dilemma at hand; I would dearly appreciate your advice.

After my husband's imprisonment last Fall (He was sentenced to two years for shoplifting at the local K Mart), I was forced to go on welfare in order to support our three children. However, I found this stipend did not cover our living expenses and sought additional means of support, eventually finding it by hiring on as an extra for a porno film company. At my first filming session, which was held at my home, who should show up but the welfare investigator! Needless to say I was immediately stricken from the welfare rolls, and also fired by the film company for causing a delay in the production, which left me without an income. My only recourse at this point is to go back to St. Boniface, Manitoba to live with my mother.

How do I explain my sudden move to my husband who anxiously awaits my weekly visits?

Sincerely,

Mrs. "X"

Dear Mrs. X,

There is only one way out of this for you: you must lie to your husband. Although this is a beaut of a problem, it in no way compares with the problem you'll have if your husband finds out the truth! Here's what you should tell him:

You have learned from your mother that welfare recipients in Manitoba receive an average of $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent above the current local rates, and for the benefit of the children you're making the move west to live with your mother. This move will also save bread as you won't have any rent to pay. I'm sure your husband will understand the economics of the situation.

As far as your visits are concerned, your husband can transfer to Stoney Mountain pen, where I understand they are not immune to handing out T.A.s in excess of three days, which will afford you more than ample time to make it up to him making your own home movies.

ITZY.

P.S. If this fails, you might go back to making porn films, include the welfare investigator in them, and we'll all make some make some money.

Dear Itzy,

I'm writing this letter to you through my buddy on the street, as I'm too embarrassed to approach you directly. You can drop your answer off at the S.I.S. in your laundry bag at Monday noon, as I have a connection there who will pick it up for me.

Let me put my question in this way: I'm serving an eight-and-a-half year bit for killing my wife during an argument ensuing from a drunken brawl outside the Legion Hall in Ecum Secum, N.S., back in '72. This summer I am coming up for parole and all indications are that I'll make it. Since arriving at Springhill, I have established a relationship with another woman and, although we are totally committed to each other, she continues to plague me with the one question I have been unable to answer: this being, what guarantee can I give her that she'll not become the next human punching bag should another drunken brawl occur after I'm out on parole? Try as I may, I am stuck for a good answer. Please help me out!

Yours truly,

Anonymous.

Dear Anonymous,

I do have an answer for you, and I hope you don't mind finding it in this paper, but your suggestion about putting my reply in with my dirty laundry is a washout; we're discussing your problem here!

First of all, you did not mention if you belong to the joint A.A. group. If not I recommend that you join up, and while you're at it, have your fiance join an outside group, possibly one at her local "Y", where she can also sign up for a course in the Martial Arts. I feel both these programs will help her reach a better understanding of your problem.

Although I recommend preventative measures first, such as promising to lay off the juice, I realize this may be a hollow suggestion once you're smashed. Have you ever tried Pot? It's a wonderful substitute with more than equally pleasing affects, and violent reactions, if ever, seldom occur. I feel this would be a catalyst in changing your lifestyle and behavior. Once your fiance notices this change in yourself, I'm sure you'll find her no longer plaguing you with that question and joining you in your new-found happiness.

ITSY.

JAYCEES

Marc MacKenzie,
Public Relations Chrmn.
Springhill Jaycees.

ANOTHER JAYCEE YEAR WILL SOON BE DRAWING to a close, and with it comes elections for the new executive for 1975-76. We hope that the past Jaycee year has been an enjoyable one for all members, and that the coming year will be bigger, better and more enjoyable for all members and prospective members. We would also like to try our best to do whatever we can for our community, so will try to have something for everyone.

Our Jaycee unit has gone on the move in many areas. The unit has proposed an Encounter project which has been carried on at Dorchester for some time, and is felt will work well here at Springhill. It is a project started by Jaycees as one of our Community Betterment aims. It will be a program open to the population, and will consist of groups coming in from outside the institution to meet with groups of guys from inside, to sit around and rap about any subject which may interest them. We hope this Jaycee-sponsored project will interest and be of some help to the guys in here, and that it will afford the people from the outside a better opportunity for coming to understand us as people.

Our Ways and Means Committee is again moving with a few great projects. One is working in conjunction with the Springhill Chamber of Commerce in putting on a dance in Springhill, with a percentage of the funds received going towards the new skating rink in the town of Springhill. Also, we would like to thank the much appreciated kindness of the Fredericton Jaycees who made a loan to our unit so that we could start a silk-screening-of-"T"-shirts project, which is now going on.

On January the 21st, 1975 a group of 10 members attended the Penitcodiac Charter Night, at which the International President, Jean Claude Feraud, from France was the guest speaker. It was an evening very much enjoyed by those members who attended.

On February 14, 15, and 16, 1975, Bernie Kervin (President); Blair DeBaie (Vice President); Joe Jackson and Phil Vatcher (Directors) attended the Sno Fun Atlantic Region Winter G.O. Conference. The three day conference was held at Keddy's Motor Inn in Moncton, New Brunswick and consisted of 14 different training sessions --the National President's Ball, a dance,

and a number of banquets. The members of our unit that attended the conference found it to be very interesting, informative, and enjoyable.

The Springhill Jaycee unit will be having its major social function of the year on April 5th, 1975 in celebration of our first year as a Chartered Unit. There will be units in attendance from most of the Atlantic region, as well as Atlantic Region Executive and National Executive of Jaycee's. Members will be having personal guests and there will be a fairly large news media coverage.

The unit has started putting on a Leadership Training course, and plan to put on more courses in the near future with both being open to the population and membership. Everyone is urged to become involved in these worthwhile courses.

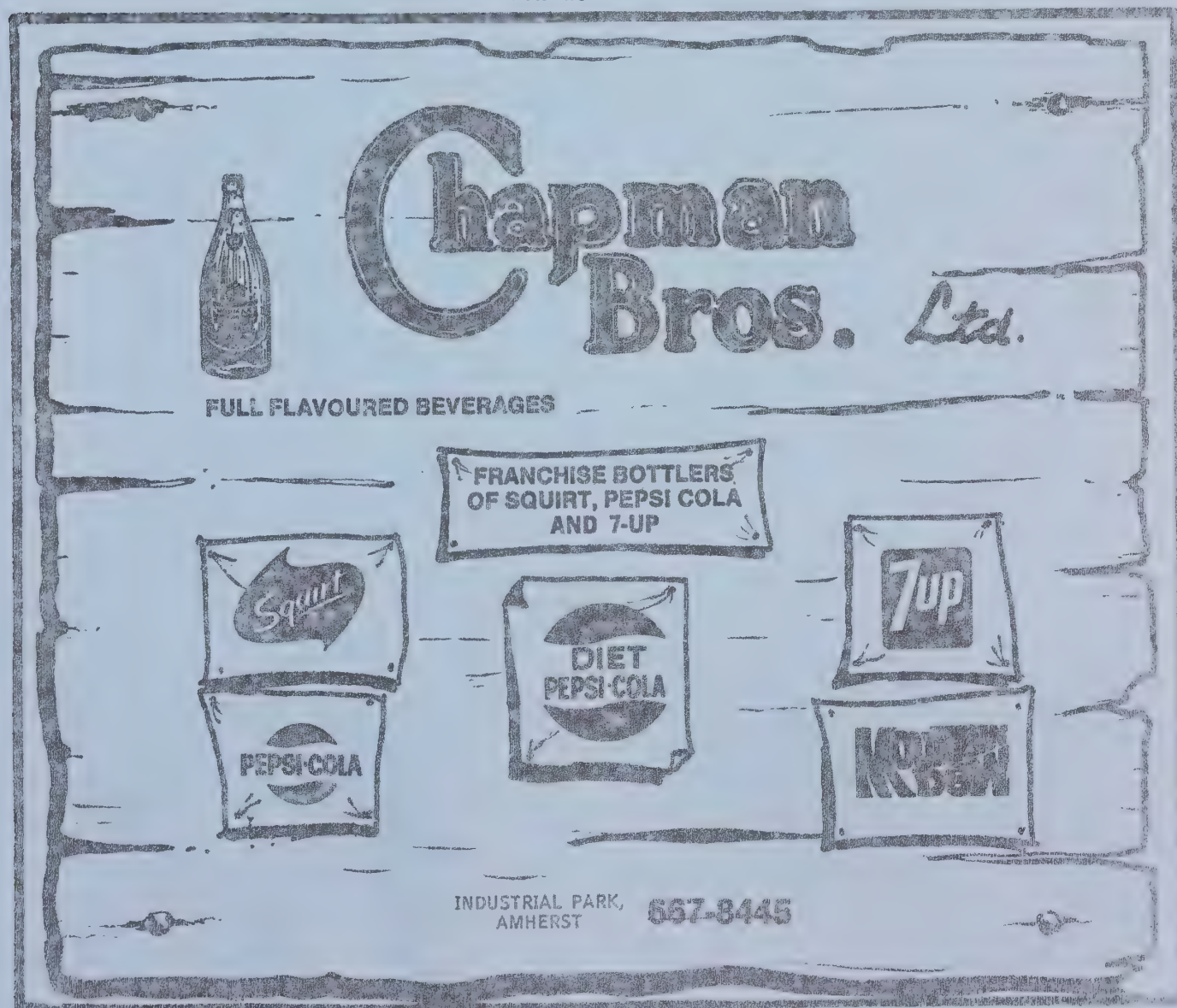
The majority of our members are now wearing name-plates. This is a very good thing: when we go to other unit functions or when we have a function, it makes it a lot easier to see who is who. It also adds some flare to the unit, as well as to the member's own personal pride.

Our unit has just sent off a lot of mail on our resolution of Inmate's Right to Vote. A lot of work has gone into this project in the past year, and we would like to express our thanks to the guys at the Communicator for all their help with this and other Jaycee projects. We are hoping to hear that our resolution will be passed by Parliament during the sitting of the House of Commons in Ottawa.

The Accent on Youth program, which is a Jaycee-sponsored project, is doing very well lately and there have been many engagements in the last month or so. We hope to have a much larger membership in Accent on Youth to handle some of the engagements that will be coming up in the very near future. This group is designed to help deter or sway youth from following a road of crime, and it helps our members to better understand themselves as individuals. This program is open to the general population and it doesn't cost anything to join -- only a little of your time.

We, as a Jaycee unit, believe that being in prison is a terrible waste of life and mental and physical abilities. This is especially true when they are not used as much as they could be. And we believe that you have it in you to be whatever you want to be! So, why not join the Springhill Jaycees and help us to help you develop some of those rusty talents you have been hiding. After all, "SUCCESS IS A MATTER OF ATTITUDE." So develop a positive attitude, join the Jaycees to help yourself and your community.

Well, as we said, the Springhill Jaycees have gone on the move and are going to strive forward in the year ahead. The Atlantic Region is GROWTH ORIENTED, and the Springhill Jaycees are really on the G.O. Be watching for us 'cause we'll be coming through -- ALWAYS!



Chapman Bros. Ltd.

FULL FLAVOURED BEVERAGES

FRANCHISE BOTTLERS
OF SQUIRT, PEPSI COLA
AND 7-UP

SQUIRT
PEPSI-COLA
DIET PEPSI-COLA
7up
MORNING

INDUSTRIAL PARK, AMHERST 667-8445

RAPPING

AFTER

TWELVE

THE FOLLOWING IS A DISCUSSION THAT TOOK PLACE AFTER THE DALHOUSIE LAW FACULTY'S CONFERENCE ON "SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES AND METHODS" IN JANUARY BETWEEN Michael Cramsie (PENITENTIARY LEGAL SERVICES), Prof. Larry Fisk (MOUNT ST. VINCENT POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT), Joanne Fisk (REGISTERED NURSE, MOTHER, AND HOMEMAKER), AND THIS WRITER

BOB: Mike is with "Penitentiary Legal Services" -- A privately funded organization with headquarters in Sackville, New Brunswick, and an executive director by the name of Peter Harvison.

MIKE: Riiight! Hey, why don't I ask the questions?

BOB: Okeh, you don't have to get violent! I mean, after all, we are civilized, adult, matoore hooman beings.... Why don't you just let my friends know what it's all about?

MIKE: Sure. Let's talk about the history of how we got started and that kind of thing. In the Fall of seventy-two a group of law students at Dalhousie University had a law and social problems class. Out of that class, six or so students decided to do a study at Dorchester Penitentiary to determine what sorts of problems the guys up there were having. They went up to Dorchester with their questionnaires and pencils and they interviewed what they felt was a pretty fair cross-section of the inmate population -- they talked to about two hundred guys. They came back with the questionnaires and analyzed the problems and found that something like fifty-six percent of those interviewed had identifiable legal problems, and had certain difficulties getting in touch with a lawyer to get their problems straightened out. The reasons lawyers were difficult to get to come out to the prison were that: the prison is where it is, namely, isolated; and secondly, the type of problems they had fell into 3 areas -- the criminal problems like criminal appeals; family problems like divorces and separation agreements; and the third being creditor/debtor problems (a creditor chasing a guy's wife and family for his debts and things like that). New Brunswick Legal Aid, at that time, and now for that matter, would only take criminal problems, so all these other matters would just gather dust and not get resolved. Out of the study, it was decided to call together a seminar and they got a lot of people together out of corrections, and judges, and lawyers, and those kinds of people. It was pointed out at the seminar that many men in the prisons needed legal help, and the question was raised as to how they were going to get that help.

Prof. Ian Cowey who is now working with the Dept. of Justice and has done work on para-legalism, pointed out that no money would be available to get lawyers to do the kind of work that was necessary to alleviate the problems of the prisoners, and he suggested that the para-legal worker approach should be thought about. It was decided to give the new approach a try, and in the Summer of '73 ten final-year law students got an "Opportunities for Youth" grant to teach a group of lay-people to be para-professionals.

It is really hard to define para-professionals because a para-professional could be a run-of-the-mill legal secretary or a radiologist or denturist or whatever. I usually tell people that I am the contact man between the client and the lawyer, but we are really much more than that: we do all the work up to the court stage.

The students running the O.F.Y. grant program advertized in the papers for interested people, and that is where I got hold of it. They got about forty applications for a training program that was being limited to fifteen people. Six of them were people who had been inside prison as prisoners and one is still inside after having completed the seven week course while on Day Parole. We had other people who had insights into prison life. It wasn't really a lecture-type program: we had video-taped sessions, role-playing, and at the end of it all, four of us were notified that we could go up to Dorchester to work with the men there.

We went up in September of 1973 and were told to, you know, go up and start our project. Here we were; four para-professionals and one law graduate, Peter Harvison -- who at that time wasn't a lawyer. We got to Sackville and hunted around for an office and office furniture, and that kind of thing. The Donnor Foundation came through with \$60,000 for the first year's operation; and \$30,000 for the second year contingent upon our coming up with \$30,000 from some other source. So we started out with \$60,000 for the first year.

We began going out to Dorchester, and it wasn't long before we had our eyes opened: none of us had really spent any time inside a prison -- except for FRANK GUINEY who had spent a lot of time inside -- and still really haven't, at least not as prisoners; we just weren't ready for what we saw. All of a sudden we found ourselves inside the walls meeting prisoners, and things like that, and it was pretty frightening -- it still is even now, but we have become accustomed to much of what goes on in those places.

Basically, what we do is handle the three areas of law I mentioned earlier; there are other areas we concern ourselves with that I'll get into in a minute.

I think it's best if we take one particular kind of problem and use that as an example of the kinds of things we do and the way we work. An example of the Criminal Law aspect of our work would be: a guy comes up and says that he wants to appeal his sentence; we take down the particulars and write away for the transcripts of his trial. When I saw "we", I mean the para-professional. We are his contact with the lawyer and do the basic work. We interview the guy and then pass the information on to Peter Harvison -- who, by the way, is not a lawyer in New Brunswick, so when we are appealing to the New Brunswick appeals court we try to get a lawyer who is licensed to practice in that province through New Brunswick Legal Aid. We go over the transcript and look for the grounds for appeal and do the necessary paper work that the guy needs. That all gets pass-

ed onto the lawyer. If we have the feeling that the guy does not have grounds to appeal, we will suggest that he get in touch with another lawyer for a second professional opinion, and will help him to do so.

In the Family Law thing, say as in a divorce, it is more or less the same. We do all the ground work, such as filing papers and preparing the case for court, and again, it gets put into the hands of a lawyer who is licensed to practice in whatever province the case is being heard.

The third category is the creditor/debtor area: a guy runs up some bills before getting his time and now needs to get his problems handled. We handle bankruptcy proceedings and helping the guys to get their financial problems straightened out. Most often, the amounts of money involved are around \$300.00 and it isn't all that great a problem to talk to the creditors and get them to hold off their collection proceedings until after the guy gets back out on the street where he can handle his own problems.

We also get involved in internal discipline problems inside the penitentiary. The guys inside call it a "kangaroo court", and so do I, because these men aren't entitled to a lawyer during these proceedings, nor are they allowed any sort of defense; and nine-times-out-of-ten, he's found guilty without any sort of defense, and all on the word of a guard. What we are trying to do now is get involved in the Warden's Court proceedings at Dorchester and Springhill. There have been some legal cases recently saying that if a guy loses his statutory remission in a warden's court, then that is taking away one of his statutory rights, and he should therefore be entitled to legal counsel. There is also the fact of people being put into segregation under Section 230A (a section under the Penitentiaries Act that says that a director or anybody authorized by the director can place an inmate in segregation for the well-being of the institution) and these people don't have to be given any reasons, which is a classic example of double-jeopardy; in that a man is serving time in a maximum security institution, and under this section, can be put into a maximum security section within a maximum security institution -- which is double punishment. We haven't been able to get into this much as of yet; but out on the west coast, there are cases where this practice is being challenged in the Supreme Court, and I think this section of the Penitentiaries Act will be wiped off the books.

There is also the touchy problem of taking guards to court who violate the civil rights of a prisoner. We are in Dorchester, more or less, at the wish of the Directors at Dorchester and Springhill, and we were given a set of guide-

lines that we agreed to work with. One of the stipulations laid down is that we don't get involved in internal matters. We feel that there is a pretty flexible line between what constitutes an internal matter and one that doesn't; if it is a matter that can be brought before an outside court -- I'm speaking for myself here because I can't speak for the Executive Director or the Board of Directors -- I feel these kinds of cases are within our guidelines. For instance; if we had an inmate come to us who claims to have been beaten up by three guards and wishes to bring charges against them, we should be bringing that to court, and for obvious reasons: here we have a guy who is inside because he broke the law, and the people who run the prisons are supposed to be helping to rehabilitate him, and in this kind of case, they are breaking the law, and we should be showing all people that the law works for everyone. I can't really say that this is the way the project is going, but this is my personal opinion.

JOANNE: Is your office inside the penitentiary?

MIKE: No. It's not.

JOANNE: How does a guy get out to see you, then?

MIKE: We go inside to see them.

JOANNE: Oh, I see. Do you have to make appointments to see them, then?

MIKE: No. We have pretty good access to the guys. We can't really go and see them in their cells -- Springhill is different about this; we can go up on the ranges to see guys -- we go into the visiting area where they have small offices set aside for interviews with people like us. They call the prisoner up and he comes up to the visiting area and we hold our interviews there. If the men want to get in contact with us, there are a number of ways to do that: they can write to us directly, or get in touch with their classification officer, or ask a guard to tell us that a prisoner wants to see us, or they can fill out a form that the institution has and we will see them as soon as we can.

BOB: Do you have any statistics -- either rough or accurate -- that would show how many cases you've actually been involved in since the inception of "Penitentiary Legal Services"?

MIKE: I can tell you the number of files that we've opened up: we are working on our two-hundred and ninetieth file. That isn't really indicative of how quickly we've been moving from the very beginning, because we had to really feel our way when we first started out, and we've

now got it down to more of a routine and science that has picked up lately. I would say it took us till November of '73 to get going properly. When you say it, it doesn't sound like much; but I have files that have been open since we first started. A lot of the guys' problems are continual kinds of things; they just keep recurring again and again. For instance, we have one guy with an apartment building in Halifax and his taxes come due every year and he has no money to pay them with. He doesn't want to sell the building because it's all he's got in the world, so every year I try and hustle up the money to save his apartment building.

JOANNE: Who collects his rents?

MIKE: There's nobody in the building and that's why he's got no money. This is a pretty good example of a non-legal problem. I think we should really -- this is once again only a personal opinion -- be expanding our services; not just being a legal aid service, but we should be a contact service. They've got the John Howard Society and people like that in there, but they're only in once a month; and a lot of times a guy gets a parole but because it's difficult to contact anybody that can come in right away so that he can fulfill the requirements of his parole agreement. We're there all the time and we've got contacts in places like Halifax, and we're ready to do anything we can for a guy who needs help. I'd like to see us expand in that way and let the people inside know that we can do those kinds of things for them.

BOB: You've opened two-hundred and ninety files; how many appearances would that be in actual courtroom proceedings?

MIKE: I can't tell you exactly the number on that, but it would be in the neighborhood of forty of those files having gone to court. They constitute actions in the court of appeals, appearances for men facing new charges after already having been committed to the penitentiary, and a couple of applications under The Innocent Victims of Criminal Violence Act. We've had some people who have been beaten up inside the penitentiary, and they have managed to get some money because of that.

BOB: Do you think there is any validity, or desirability, to have people on the inside taking para-legal courses and the kind of training you've undergone?

MIKE: I think so; yes! What we are trying to do is get a course set up in Springhill. The administration at Springhill has been more receptive to us, and we feel we can get the course in there quicker than we can into Dorchester. It

is a very good idea. We're not there twenty-four hours a day, and these people could be a big help to people in trouble. These men could also use this training to get a job after they get out; their experience and background would be a big help towards helping them be very good at their work, and they could do a lot of good things in the community. If they are still inside and are using the knowledge they gained from a para-legal course, they would have credibility that we have to work to get. They would be helping their own fellows, and this would be a good thing. Inside, jail-house lawyers get a hard time from the administration, but if the individual were connected with a group such as ours, we could make it clear to the prison authorities that the man is doing his job and that he should be left alone to do that, and that would give him credibility.

LARRY: That seems to be a good way of bringing a lot of people to an awareness of what their rights are, and could, perhaps, work towards bringing about a change in the whole approach of the penitentiary authorities.

BOB: Personally, one of the things that would be attractive to guys that I would come into contact with as a para-legal worker is that they might assume -- and I would hope that they would be right to assume this -- that I, as a prisoner myself, would be a little more prone to pushing for their rights. I would be less concerned with losing my job for the "right" reasons, than just going along with the administration because they can threaten my status -- which is just another way of saying, I think I would be more interested in doing my job according to law than remaining in the good graces of the authorities. Lawyers fall into this kind of thing all the time: they will be selective in the cases they take; not because the guy does not have a good case going for him but more because the lawyer knows that it is not a good political thing for him to be doing. He might feel that he will have to go against someone that he will later on want a favour from, and he is more prone to backing off on an issue for the sake of retaining his own prestigious position among other lawyers and judiciary -- this is not a hypothetical situation because I have seen it at work, including my own personal experience with lawyers, police and prosecutors.

MIKE: Sure. This is a problem that comes up where you have a guy with a wife and family, or people who concern themselves too much with social status. But in our case, what we do is tell the guy that if he is not happy with our services, he should get in touch with someone else, and we got so far as to recommend who he should get in touch with. In Springhill, say, there is the Nova Scotia Legal Aid system that he can get in touch with, if he's not satisfied that we're doing our best.

BOB: That sounds good; but when you went into the institutions in the beginning, you found that 53% of the people there had legal problems, and legal aid existed then. And now, after a full year and you having dealt with 290 cases, there is still reason to believe that a good many men are still suffering from these same legal problems.

MIKE: Sure, of course. I'm not making any preten-

Serving
Cumberland
County

For Over

Three

Decades

JAMES GOGAN WHOLESALE LTD.

Peanuts
Chocolate
Bars

SPRINGHILL

Gum
Potato
Chips
Candy

Soft
Drinks

se that we've managed to solve the problems of the men who have them, nor have we managed to reach all of the people who could use our services. There is the situation of credibility that has to be dealt with, and we need that credibility. Many people look at us as less than lawyers, and this plays a part in the number of men that will approach us. This has to be taken into consideration too. Another thing is that we aren't the only legal aid system: Springhill, for instance, has Nova Scotia Legal Aid.

JOANNE: Are they in there on a regular basis?

MIKE: Sure.

JOANNE: Are they as available as you are?

MIKE: Well, no. They aren't as available as we are because -- and this is in the process of change -- the lawyer used to have to come down from New Glasgow, one day a week. But now he is dropping out of it and a lawyer will be coming from Amherst, which is considerably closer to the institution, and it only takes a phone call to get him to come down.

LARRY: How much time do you spend inside the penitentiary?

MIKE: It varies. If the need arises, we are there. Some weeks we are there three or four days per week, which leaves us the other three or four days to do our work in the office at Sackville. We try to get out to Springhill on a regular basis. Springhill being thirty miles away, we try to make it there every Friday, and are now starting to go in on Tuesdays and Fridays because more people are becoming aware of us and our services.

We have three people working on a regular basis, so we try to get one going out to both Springhill and Dorchester, leaving one to work in the office. Even if we are only going out to Springhill to see only one person, it turns out to be an afternoon's work because of the travelling time involved, so we try to keep one man back in the office doing the paper work that has to be done. It sometimes happens that we get out to the institution at, say, one o'clock, and we get told that because it is laundry day, or something else of that nature, we can't get to see the man until two; by the time he gets up to see us, it might be as late as two-thirty or so, and we have to leave at four o'clock, which is when they cut off visitors to the institution. So by the time we get to see the man, our time has been seriously chewed up with waiting.

BOB: That's what jail is all about:

'hurry-up, and wait!'

MIKE: Yeh. My approach is to spend as much time at the penitentiary as I can, and keep away from the office as much as possible. When I get results on a case, I like to get out to the guy as soon as possible to explain the whole situation to him. One of the things that a para-professional has going for him, that a lawyer doesn't, is that, with the lawyer making something like thirty thousand dollars a year, and sitting up in those plush offices on pedestals like gods and judges, they don't have the same rapport with prisoners that we have. The guys see me as being more like they are, and this helps us to get by the stigma that a lawyer has when he walks into a prison. We don't try to put ourselves above the prisoners, and, as a matter of fact, I've met many prisoners who I consider to be above me in many ways.

BOB: Frank Guiney was one of the people who was with your organization in the early stages of its development.

MIKE: Yes. That's right.

JOANNE: He did the course? Was he one of the guys who did the course while on day parole?

MIKE: That's right. He was one of the guys, yeh. He wasn't on day parole though; he had finished his time and was under mandatory supervision. I guess you want to know why he left the program?

BOB: No. I know why he left....

LARRY: Why did he leave?

MIKE: Well, 'cause he had some sort of personal problems of his own, but I think another reason was that, right from the beginning, he had an idea that -- he felt this had been implied to him by other people around the project right from the beginning -- we were going to change a lot of things, a lot of big things. Frank sort of went along with that, and said he would give it a try. Once the project got rolling, he said that we weren't really going to do any good; that we were just another "band-aid agency" and, personally, I agree with him because I can't see us doing any great, major kinds of things. Prisons are always going to be punishment cells, as far as I can see. So, I do think we are "band-aiding" and not going to really change the whole system; but, in certain places, it's a pretty good "band-aiding" because we are able to help people who need our help. That's what the guys inside want and need, and if they don't want it, we'll leave. As long as the need is there, we'll stay and do what we can.

BOB: When you find yourself on the other

side of the fence, you tend to be overly impatient -- and that's real. For instance, if I were working alongside you as a para-legal worker, and we came up against some of the things that hinge around the injustice of many of the issues to do with parole and mandatory supervision, I would want to go to the court as fast as possible, and my inclination would be to get pretty uptight with you if I didn't think you were moving fast enough. You know, the guy inside is doing twenty-four hours in every day, and where he feels that he has been done an injustice, that twenty-four hours is a long bloody time.... That's what Frank was reacting to, and I have little doubt that he was right; however, from where I sit, I doubt very much if you ever will be able to push the way the system needs to be pushed. You are a very small agency that is involving itself with disenfranchized citizens whom very few Free-men can be bothered concerning themselves with. On top of that, you are taking your (our) grievances to Establishment people who don't really give a damn about anyone who can't fatten their pockets or gain them further social prestige. If you started making very big waves, you wouldn't be allowed inside the prisons for very long, and that again is real.

MIKE: Yeh. I know what you're saying and there is truth in what you say, and we have to live with that. But, the fact remains, we are working with people who need help, and that is the service we try to give. We, of course, can't be very effective in a lot of cases, but we try to do what we can.

BOB: So, what you are saying is that you don't hold much hope that you'll change the system, and that you'll be satisfied to do the best you can, where you can?

MIKE: Yes. That's pretty accurate. I don't expect to change the world, but I would like to help where I can.

BOB: Right on! But it is still neat to think of walking into a social situation and managing to bring about serious changes for the good. I would guess that this is a manifestation of my "knight in shining armour" complex. (Laughs along with everyone else.) Okeh.... Have you had any inquiries about forming, or helping to form a "prisoner's union" or anything of that nature?

MIKE: Yeh. When we first came in we got some literature on it, but I don't think we should be the ones to initiate that kind of thing: I think that if that kind of thing is going to be formed, it will have to be formed by the prisoners. We were asked to supply a man with information on the subject, and we did that but nothing more came of it. Again, if the

need arises we are there, but we can't get into initiating that kind of thing. A prisoner's union has got to come from the inside -- it has to be formed on the inside, and have the support of outside people, to make it work, and that's where we would come in.

BOB: But, if places like Dalhousie and U. of T. are, in fact, sending people from their law faculties into various communities, to stimulate political action through a new awareness of the law and how it can be used for all people, and that is consistent with the basic theory behind the para-legal approach, I find it curious that "Penitentiary Legal Services" aren't doing the same kinds of things inside the pens.

MIKE: Okeh. The idea behind para-legal going into communities, for that kind of reason, is just one of the things that is part of our role; but, like I say, if the need arises.... The people in Halifax's north-end asked for people to come into their community and get involved, and this is what happened -- but the initial stages have to come from the community, and this has to be the case with the prisoners inside.

BOB: I could get into that kind of thing. You know, in four or five years, when I get out, I could dig going into the community and involving myself in the affairs of people who need help from a legal viewpoint. I can't see myself as a social worker, or counsellor, or things of that nature, because I see those roles as more passive than I want to be once I'm out. But I could see myself taking on the legal end of people's problems, and working at getting them recourse to the courts in the way the Bill of Rights states they are to have it. It would be kind of ironical, to see myself standing up before the kinds of people we were with during the law faculty conference, and having as much training (But more experience on this end of the law), and struggling with them right in their own backyard and by their own set of rules, which is really funny when you think about it: I can just picture myself standing up before a court presided over by the judge that was screaming at the parole service representative today, calling him a grade eight dropout, and making statements like, "all those egg-headed Parole Service types should be locked-up with the others of their kind out at the penitentiary." I can just picture how well I would go over, under those kinds of circumstances. Or, I can see myself standing before a judge who has just finished sleeping throughout most of a preliminary hearing -- as was the case when I went to bat -- and me being able to address him as "His Lordship" and "Your Grace" etc. etc..

But, of course, that could never

happen, because ex-cons aren't able to practice law (except in a few provinces) and go before the bench, except as defendants. But it is still a practical thing for an ex-con to be thinking in terms of working as a para-legal worker, someone who goes into a community, knowing the law, and helping people to organize themselves into lobby and pressure groups, in order to bring about social change. I could get into that; that is a very attractive possibility that is open to me. It would be a fine thing, if people in my position got into doing para-legal training and aimed at trying to rectify the social conditions that influence people to make the kinds of choices that put them in prisons. From a personal viewpoint, money and the usual kinds of social status means nothing to me; I get more of a kick out of being useful in a healthy way, than I do from aspiring to a lot of plastic garbage that I can't take with me anyway, and I think it would be really neat to get into using my own background to help other working-class people avoid the pitfalls that I've wallowed my way through. The more I think about it, the more I think this is the kind of thing that you're going to see coming out of prisons and lower social-class groups; it's happening already, and is having a profound effect on the social situations of people all over North America. A guarantee of a job, that only provides a person with an income, is not enough nowadays; people are getting to the point where they expect more from society in terms of education and alternatives, and they are taking part in tenant/landlord fights, public versus private business sector struggles, and citizen participation in more and more of the business of government.

It seems to me that the para-legal approach can be a very effective way to help the community motivate itself; para-professionals, being trained in the law, can go into a neighborhood and identify the discrepancies between what the law says shall be, and what is existent. These para-professionals can stimulate the community and help them organize themselves into pressure groups, that could have an effect on the way things are in reality. These same para-professionals can seek to build their reputations, and these people can be sent out into the community and work for the people. The para-professional can be the guy who does the organizing and channeling, after identifying the problems.

MIKE: You are going to have a lot of trouble finding people in law schools who are really interested in doing anything more than making lots of money.

BOB: I know people I went to school with who are now working in the community, and

are doing good work for other people. They came from upper class families but through some sort of process, they became interested in the existing human conditions of people living in social groups other than their own, and they've gone to work trying to help other people to better their own positions in life. I have a friend who works with the Native Brotherhood in Toronto, and is now doing her law degree at Osgoode, and she is the kind of person who is breaking her ass trying to get it together enough to be able to go out and do something worthwhile in the community -- and this is no teenage star-gazer of a child; this is a full-blown woman who has seen some of both sides of the tracks.

I do think there are people on campuses who, if they really understood what the social conditions in certain areas of this country were doing to people, would get out and work to change it. I have to believe that, or what the hell are we all sitting around talking about? Better we should take to the streets and make the establishment types give the people what is their right!

JOANNE: One of the differences between doing that kind of thing and what the counsellor or the social worker does is that, with the law, you are dealing with hard facts in law and justice....

BOB: Wish I could believe that, because you're not! The law is an objective thing once it has become law and decimated down to its finest points, but in order to get the law so that it pertains to all people, you've got to get through the social structure that leads to the people who make and, supposedly, see that the laws get enforced equally across the board.

JOANNE: Yes, that's true....

BOB: An example of that kind of thing is that, in the B.N.A. Act it states that no law can be made retroactive, but I can show you where in Bill C-195, pertaining to multiple sentences (two sentences that are consecutive), they shall be deemed to be considered as one for the purposes of the Penitentiary and Parole Acts; and the wording is, "where, either before, on, or after the coming into effect of this section." Now, if that isn't retroactive, what is? Sure, it can be said that nobody has had it done to them by that particular wording, but what guarantees have we that this won't be used against someone at a later date? I don't trust in the benevolence of the powers over me to interpret something to my benefit.

JOANNE: What about the business of job orientation for the Penitentiary Legal Services? Can you help prisoners get jobs after they get out?

MIKE: There are people coming into the institutions that concern themselves with getting jobs for guys when they get out. "Let's Face It" is a group out of Moncton, and there is "Con-Employ" working out of Halifax; both of these groups are doing a good job helping guys find work. I've got a few guys jobs but I think it should be one of the objectives and aims of "Penitentiary Legal Services."

I like to see us doing legal work for the guys, but it would be nice if we could do more. "Penitentiary Legal Services" is an awkward title for a group of privately funded people going into penitentiaries. It has helped open some doors for us, in that we have gained some credibility through having a name that is not all that offensive to the authorities. I would like to have seen us have a name like "Con-Tact" -- something that is less restricting than "Penitentiary Legal Services".

JOANNE: One of the things I noticed today at the conference was the emphasis that is put on getting a job. It seemed that getting out was being equated with having a job.

MIKE: Sure, that's true. That is particularly true for a man that is getting out on parole, or trying to. To try to get out on parole to go and live on a commune would be seen as the same thing as saying you weren't going to go to work, and therefore shouldn't be let out.

JOANNE: Is it possible to deal with that in any way? Rather than working to provide jobs, couldn't you take a case and show where a man would benefit more from just getting back into the community and reconnecting himself with family and friends, and that the emphasis should be put more on a person getting back to normal in terms of his family relationships rather than just having a job to go to? I think that it is really awful that a person should be expected to come right out of one of those places and be expected to go right into a job, without first having some time to himself and his family. A person should have a chance to recuperate after having served a sentence.

MIKE: Yeh, away from the penitentiary system.

JOANNE: Yes, in a way that he sees fit....

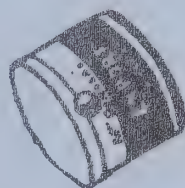
BOB: You can't let those kinds of people do that because it is obvious that since they have been a penitentiary prisoner, they are not equipped to make those kinds of decisions for themselves. That's what I have been trying to say all along, that's what "treatment" is all about; they say, "we want you to be happy, as long as you do it our way." That is where the "treatment" people are coming from -- they don't believe that people in my position can ever know what is best for ourselves. They have always got to have the final say in what they think I should be doing. That is the way the system is set up.

If I went to the authorities and told them I had a friend over on the northwest end of P.E.I. who had 250 acres of land and we were going to go into a "new options" kind of thing, they would laugh at me and tell me to "go lie down and do your time." They don't want to hear that kind of thing; they want me to plug into what they consider "legitimate" and normal.



EXPORT TOBACCO

Ninety per-cent of the Springhill Prisoners smoke 'EXPORT'.



LARRY: All day long, they only talked about two possibilities; job and education. Those were the only things they really talked about.

BOB: Of course, because that's the ideology of their position. What else is important to those people? They don't ever take into account that there might be alternatives to their offerings.... Like, the ideal for me is to get a job that I can do without having to give my whole being to. I could then work six months of the year, making enough to support me for the rest of the year, while I got into writing and some of the other things I would like to do. But that's

not acceptable to the authorities because they want you to put in forty hours a week, and it doesn't matter what kind of job you do, or how much money you make. The important thing to them is that we get jobs that conform to what they think working class people should be doing. Considerations of how happy we can be while working at those jobs is not worth their consideration.

Well, Folks, I've got to be getting back to my assigned place. I appreciate your allowing me to use this rap for publication, and I am sure that there are some who will find what has gone down interesting. May I have another?

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

NUMBER ELEVEN UNIT

Terry Roussou

THINGS HAVE BEEN PICKING UP IN NUMBER ELEVEN unit....

Our Floor Hockey team has been doing very well, with the help of Junior MARSHALL who was chosen "Most Valuable Player" in both Floor hockey and Ice Hockey. On the Ice Hockey scene NUMBER TEN was unbeaten until they faced OUR UNIT in the play-offs where they lost to our team in the best-out-of-three series. One of the games went into overtime with RICHARD WHITE scoring the winning goal to give NUMBER ELEVEN the victory.

In Darts our favorite player, BOB BAILLIE pulled through with another Institutional Tournament victory for the unit, and due to Bob's absence, PAUL AUGUSTINE and JOE DENNIS entered in the Unit's tournament and came out on top.

We finally found a strong man: he is JEANNOT GAGNON, an ex-woodsman hailing from Quebec. His strength was proven to all in the last arm-wrestling tournament. He was victorious but I must say the trophy he got was not too much.

And, again, as I was saying before, NUMBER ELEVEN has gotten off their back-sides and come through like champions and another victory was totalled up as JUNIOR MARSHALL met up with a nameless opponent from NUMBER NINE unit and came through will flying colours.

In Ground Hockey NUMBER ELEVEN stands at one win and one loss. The scores for

those two games were 2 to 1 for NUMBER TEN and 3 to 2 for our guys against NUMBER NINE. The tournament is not over yet but will be completed shortly and, who knows, maybe NUMBER ELEVEN will come up a winner again.

In the quiet but skillful sport of CHESS, MARC MACKENZIE and JUDE TREMBLAY played-off for the unit championship. MARC outmoved JUDE to come up on the winning end. I watched several of the moves and I must say that MARC is one of the better players around here.

The Unit's colourful spokesman, JOE JACKSON, presented a cheque of \$100 at the COPS-CONS GAME to a guy who was going to walk from TRURO to HALIFAX to raise money for a young boy who needs an open-heart operation to live. This money was presented on behalf of the total inmate population.

Oh yes! I almost forgot; PORKY BORDEN was the Unit Whist winner.

If the guys in this unit continue to demonstrate their determination to improve by keeping up the fine work of the last month or so, this unit is always going to be the unit to watch. I say, "Well done" and let's keep it up.

Bye for now and good sports to you. REMEMBER -- IF YOU WIN, SAY LITTLE; IF YOU LOSE, SAY LESS....

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Spring has come to Sillyhill. It's no great revelation... there was no crashing of thunder... no tatatada tada of drums... no blaring of horns... and only a barely perceptible change in the weather. But, Spring it is....

And with Spring comes the urge for shaking off those winter doldrums, for cleaning up the house, for airing out those dark corners in the cellar, for getting down to the roots of things and causing them to grow, bringing new life into seemingly-dead husk-like things.

Spring is a time for planting and giving new life to hibernating creatures, but like the planter sowing seeds, it pays to know what you are germinating. And when those seeds for germination are placed in sour ground, one cannot expect them to grow into healthy, life-full creations.

There are trends taking place in the system of corrections in this country that are working counter to where the authorities claim they want to lead us. One of these trends showing its ugly husk-like shell is pointed up in the resurgence of cries for "Hang 'em! Hang 'em high!" The capital punishment issue is being bantered about in the media and like all cries for "Order!" it really means, "Listen to ME!" It really means, "I am without power, I am with shame, I have my fear."

People are feeling they have no power to affect change in their own lives. They are reading in the press of how helpless we all are in the face of inflation, depression, recession, consumerism, capitalism, and alienation.

They are feeling -- although masking -- their shame at not living up to codes of ethics that used to have meaning. The "new morality" is leaving people who need external guidance with no place to turn to for that guidance, and the media is becoming (is) the chalice for our morals. We watch Charles Bronson murder people and we cheer. We see Dustin Hoffman turn from a gentle, loving man into a spiteful and murdering killer, and we cheer. We are getting vicarious thrills from watching others kill and maim and lie and cheat -- and we cheer! This is shame masked in bravado. It is the kid standing on the streetcorner with no self-respect, hassling passersby in an attempt to assert his "manhood". Their lack of self-respect has become their motivating drive, turning them into spiteful and envious children.

Fear causes people to hate, and when you see what is being pushed in the way of entertainment and "news" in the media you see that hate has become our major unifying force in this country.

And when people are afraid and hating, it is no great task to rally them behind a banner that is reactionary and hateful. "Hang 'em! Hang 'em high!" "Order! We must have order!"

The symptoms are all there but what of the results? While living in the microcosmic world a penitentiary is, it is easy to overlook the reality of what is going on around you; but when you pay attention to implications and try to understand where trends are leading, there is cause for concern. A few of the implications I am referring to are pointed up in the Capital Punishment issue; they are rendered legible in the principles surrounding the new stipulation Ottawa has put on Temporary Leaves of Absence applicants having to have a "sponsor" before applications can be approved. Ottawa is saying that a person's family are not to be trusted and expected to be responsible, if and when the person on Temporary Leave meets with difficulty.

The implications are obvious in the fact that people are being investigated by the authorities, and the authorities are legally able to deny the investigated person access to the reports being made out on him. This is even taken so far as to deny a potential parolee access to why he is being refused permission to return to his own community -- without his ever being aware of what he might be able to defend or even that the authorities are right in assuming that it might be in his best interests not to return to that community.

It is pointed up in parole, probation, pre-sentence reports, community assessments, and hundreds of other forms and investigations of all kinds, that the authorities are afraid to open their files to the people they are concerned with. They are afraid because they may have to prove or defend their positions, and this attitude is unhealthy and runs counter to what responsibility is supposed to mean.

People are being denied access to the "decision making process" and are feeling helpless in the face of the bureaucratic approach to everything. Paper files and decisions are running our lives and there is good cause to be afraid; but to just fear and not do anything about it leads to shame, and fear and shame combined equals hate -- self-hate.

Spring is the season of LOVE! Love being the healthy nurturing of what is good in a creation should cause us to reflect on the seeds we are sowing, and a conscious effort to improve should be our creed for living. What are you planting this year? * * * B.E.

PENITENTIARY LEGAL SERVICES

RECENT DECISIONS HAVE EXTENDED THE MARCOTTE CASE IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA which held that an inmate who was convicted, paroled, and revoked prior to August 26, 1969 would not lose STATUTORY REMISSION which he acquired upon his admission to the penitentiary.

EVERY INMATE should check the following examples to determine whether or not he falls within the prescribed category. The case names appear in parenthesis.

1. If you were sentenced PRIOR to August 26, 1969, paroled BEFORE that date and had your parole revoked AFTER that date, you do not lose statutory remission standing to your credit as of the first conviction. (In re LeHeinsworth, Ont. Sup. Ct.)

2. If you were sentenced PRIOR to August 26, 1969, paroled AFTER that date and had your parole either revoked or forfeited AFTER that date, you do not lose statutory remission standing to your credit at the time of sentencing upon the first conviction, (In re Dwyer, B.C. Sup. Ct.), (In re Spice, Ont. Sup. Ct., presently under appeal by the Crown) and (In re Zong, presently under appeal, goes against the two decisions above).

3. If you were on a day parole and the day parole was revoked you do not lose statutory remission standing to your credit and you receive credit for time spent "on the street" while on day parole. (Regina v. Hales, Man. Ct. of Appeal).

4. If you were on day parole and the day parole was forfeited by conviction for a criminal offence, you lose both statutory remission and time spent "on the street" while subject to that day parole. (In re Davidson, B.C. App. Ct., In re Kerr, Ont. Sup. Ct., In re Zong, Federal Ct.) However, both the Zong and Kerr cases are under appeal.

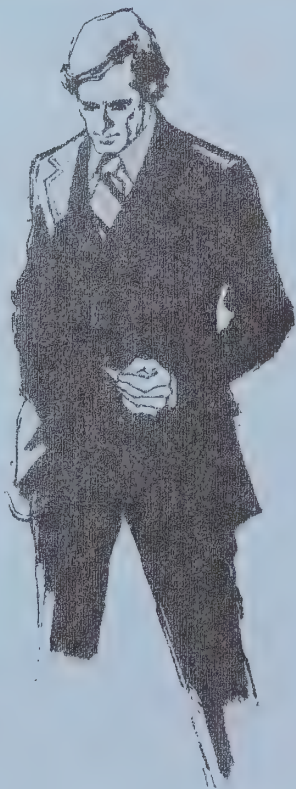
NOTE: It IS the responsibility of EACH inmate to determine whether or not he falls into any of the above categories. If he does, he should either contact his own solicitor or contact a member of Penitentiary Legal Services.

SENTENCE ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTE:
ALLAN DILL IS ALSO AVAILABLE IF
YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

Peter Harvison,
Executive Director.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS

by
**Mansour's
LTD.**



READY TO WEAR AND MADE TO MEASURE CLOTHING

27 CHURCH ST., AMHERST, N.S.

ph. 667-8577

COVER

LUDO IS THE ACRONYM FOR "LIVING UNIT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER" -- otherwise known as Classification Officer to the prisoners at this institution. His job is to counsel prisoners with regards to their present and future circumstances; to assist them in applying for Temporary Leaves of Absence; to help them make a parole plan that is realistic and practical -- and one that has a chance of success; to counsel them regarding matters of all descriptions, from family matters through to institutional problems.

Ideally, the Classification Officer is the man who should know as much about the prisoner as any man in the prison. He works in co-operation with the Range Officers -- who are the people who spend the most time with the prisoners -- and he is qualified higher than any other group of correctional workers inside the institution in an academic sense. Most of the LUDO's have a M.A. or M.S.W. at this institution and are, therefore, considered professionals by people who set standards by academic backgrounds.

The zipper on the mouth of the LUDO on our cover was drawn in by an artist but the zipper has been put there by the Parole Service. Ludo's, after talking with a good number of them, are getting the feeling that the Parole Service pays

no attention to their recommendations. They are getting the feeling that the Parole Service discounts anything they might have to add to a prisoner's case, and they think that this is an unhealthy situation. They feel that they spend enough time in direct contact with the prisoners to have a better idea of what recommendations should be made on his behalf, and, in a lot of cases, they are right.

We intend following through on the issue involved here, and will do it within the next two issues. So, keep your eye out for some provocative and insightful dialogue. ***** E.E.

SENTENCED BEFORE AUGUST 26, 1969?

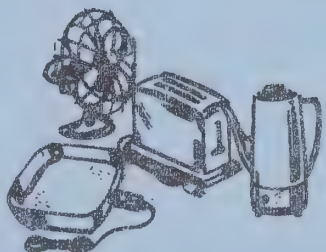
IF YOU WERE SENTENCED BEFORE AUGUST 26, 1969 AND WERE PAROLED ON THAT SENTENCE, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO BE RE-CREDITED WITH STATUTORY REMISSION TIME IF YOUR PAROLE WAS FORFEITED OR REVOKED. TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOU QUALIFY, CONTACT YOUR LAWYER OR "PENITENTIARY LEGAL SERVICES," P.O. BOX 1348, SACKVILLE.

DAY PAROLE REVOKED?

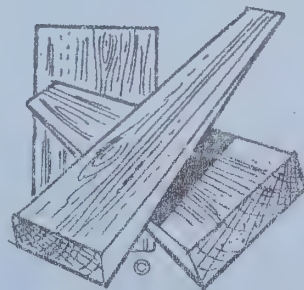
IF YOUR DAY PAROLE WAS REVOKED YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A RETURN OF STATUTORY REMISSION IF YOU LOST REMISSION BECAUSE OF THAT REVOCATION. TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOU QUALIFY, CONTACT YOUR LAWYER OR "PENITENTIARY LEGAL SERVICES", P.O. BOX 1348, Sackville, New Brunswick

HALLIDAYS

HOME CARE CENTRES



BUILDING SUPPLIES
HOUSEWARES
HARDWARES
CARPETS — TOOLS
KITCHENWARES
APPLIANCES



597-3744
SPRINGHILL

WE'RE NOT SATISFIED UNLESS YOU ARE"

ILLINOIS PLANS TO END PAROLE WITH 'FLAT-TIME' SENTENCES

The Washington Post

CHICAGO -- THE STATE OF ILLINOIS IS CONSIDERING a sweeping reform of criminal sentencing and prison life that would end parole, allow conjugal visitation for inmates and reduce the discretionary sentencing power of judges.

The key proposal would create permanent, or so-called flat-time, sentences for all crimes. For example, armed robbery would be punishable by eight years in prison, and judges could alter the sentence only under certain defined circumstances.

They would be permitted small discretionary variances of up to 20 percent of mandatory sentences -- but would have to justify variances on the record. All sentences would undergo mandatory review by a state sentencing-equalization board.

The board would also adjust the sentences of the state's existing 6,500 inmate prison population to fit the new standards.

The goal of determinate sentencing -- reportedly under consideration in a few other states, but thus far not in use anywhere -- is to achieve "fairness" in sentencing and establish an atmosphere of certainty among prisoners," corrections expert David Fogel said.

Fogel, executive director of the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, a state planning agency which has drafted proposed legislation to implement the program, helped devise the system last summer as part of a study at Harvard Law School's Institute for Criminal Justice.

The plan is expected to create considerable controversy, but key features of the package, including determinate sentences, have a better-than-average chance of passage in the assembly, where both houses are controlled by Democrats.

The Harvard study found that a chief cause of physical violence and mental unrest among inmates is a lack of certainty about how long they will have to

stay behind bars, Fogel said.

The Illinois plan also proposes changes to improve prison life and expand inmate rights. The plan proposes:

- * The right -- as opposed to the reward -- of conjugal visitation for both married and unmarried inmates. The state would provide motel or apartment facilities within prisons for private visits of up to 10 hours. California and Mississippi already have similar visitation programs.

- * Mandatory due-process procedures for internal prison disciplinary proceedings, including advance notice of charges, opportunity to defend oneself and appeals.

- * Creation of a prison-elected, self-governing council, comprised of inmates and guards, as well as the appointment of a prison ombudsman to solicit and attempt to redress grievances.

- * Expansion of a crime victim's restitution program, under which prisoners can contract with victims for repayment of stolen funds. Illinois is already 1 of 11 states that have compensation programs for victims of violent crimes.

- * Provision for attorneys for all prisoners, particularly to handle civil matters that arise while they are incarcerated, and freer access to books and educational materials, including law books.

- * Abolition of parole-officer jobs. Current parole officers would become state-paid probation workers.

- * An inmate furlough program to be used extensively in the final days of a sentence, aimed at enabling inmates to better prepare themselves for their return to society.

- * A sentence-reduction program that would allow a prisoner one day off for each day of good behavior, instead of discretionary "good-time" reduction plans now in effect.

ENCOUNTER: A Social Concern

ENCOUNTER, a program originating in Dorchester and brought to you by the SPRINGHILL JAYCEES, has begun operation in this institution. Groups from outside get together with prisoners to rap about topics of mutual concern and interest.

On Wednesday the 12th of March a group of students from Mount Allison came down for two hours and visited with fifteen of our guys.

On Wednesday the 2nd, Oxford, Nova Scotia was represented by six people and two hours flew by in conversation.

On the inside a lot of people don't

get visits and they have lost interest in what goes on in the outside world. Many people in the community have no idea what prison is about; ENCOUNTER is attempting to introduce one group to the other.

Although there has been a great response to this idea within the jail and with the groups now visiting the institution, the ratio of inmate to visitor is high.

IF YOU are a member of a group and ARE INTERESTED in meeting with some of the guys here, preferably on a regular basis, GET IN TOUCH WITH STU MURRAY at this institution.



THE
COMMUNICATOR

Subscription Order Form

**If You Like It,
Buy It!**

SPECIAL RATES

5.00 for the first one-year
subscription (your own or gift)

3.75 for each additional one-
year gift subscription

Your Name _____

Street _____

City _____

- ☐ Start a new subscription in my name
☐ Renew or extend my subscription

Please Enter The Following Gift Subscriptions:

To _____

Street _____

City _____

Gift card to read: "From _____"

To _____

Street _____

City _____

Gift card to read: "From _____"

To _____

Street _____

City _____

Gift card to read: "From _____"

To _____

Street _____

City _____

Gift card to read: "From _____"

I enclose \$ _____ to cover _____ subscriptions.

Make all cheques payable to THE COMMUNICATOR, P.O. Box # 2140, SPRINGHILL, N.S.



5.00

P.O. Box # 2140, SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA

Dear Sirs;

Would you please find enclosed, my five dollars to cover the subscription fee for the next twelve issues of the COMMUNICATOR.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....APT. NUMBER.....

CITY or TOWN.....PROVINCE.....

(make all cheques payable to the COMMUNICATOR)

**As the debate vehemently
continues.....**



"I find that Freidenberg's practical application for aversion therapy is somewhat enigmatic and quite threatening to the spirit of the prevalent treatment orientation in the Living Unit program."



**The
COMMUNICATOR**

P.O. BOX 2140, SPRINGHILL, N.S.

**ONLY
FIVE
BUCKS
A
YEAR**